

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

**Edward Byrt** 

s we step into the new year at Papyrus, we are reflecting on our achievements in 2021 and also looking forward to 2022, a year filled with enormous potential and opportunities for our company.

Acknowledging the inroads we've made in environmentally sustainable technology, Papyrus was pleased to host a visit from the Australian Ambassador to Egypt, Glenn Miles at the Papyrus Egypt Sohag factory in November last year. Follow the link on page two to watch the highlights from this visit.

I'm also pleased to announce, in a substantial step in our product development journey, Papyrus has recently produced the first biodegradable moulded clamshell packaging using 100% banana fibre.

This exciting milestone opens the door to negotiations with businesses interested in

setting up food packaging manufacturing facilities.

And finally, I'd like to welcome Kerry Chikarovski AM to the Papyrus team. As a relatively new and pioneering business, the core of our success has always been our people. Ms Chikarovski brings highly valuable firsthand government knowledge and extensive community and stakeholder relations expertise to the Company which will stand us in good stead for the exciting developments ahead.

We look forward to all that lies ahead in 2022 as we continue to refine our research, development, technology and processes.



#### **AMBASSADOR'S VISIT**

Australian Ambassador to Egypt, Glenn Miles at the Papyrus Egypt Sohag factory

apyrus Australia recently hosted the Australian Ambassador to Egypt, Glenn Miles, at the Papyrus Egypt Sohag factory.

During the visit, the Ambassador met with Papyrus Australia Managing Director, Ramy Azer, who took the Ambassador on a factory tour to explain and demonstrate the Papyrus technology firsthand.

During the visit, Ramy also took the opportunity to explain to the Ambassador the main purpose of commercialising our technology in Egypt, as a representative case study for developing countries (the countries which almost exclusively grow banana). This enables the technology to be ready for deployment in regional banana growing areas in developing countries around the world.





Watch now: Highlights of the Ambassador's visit

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# **KERRY CHIKAROVSKI AM JOINS PAPYRUS**

apyrus Australia has recently appointed former MP and leader of the New South Wales Liberal Party, Kerry Chikarovski AM, as
Executive Director of Government Relations.

Ms Chikarovski's appointment is an important next step in facilitating the Company's strategic objectives in the Australian market.

As a former MP and leader of the New South Wales Liberal Party from 1999 to 2002, Ms Chikarovski brings highly valuable firsthand government knowledge and extensive community and stakeholder relations expertise to the Company.

# **DISPLACING PLASTIC**

An exciting development in sustainable food packaging

n a substantial step forward, Papyrus Australia's commercial entity, Papyrus Egypt, has produced the first biodegradable moulded clamshell packaging using 100% banana fibre. This announcement marks a substantial milestone, not only for the Company's product development but also for the food packaging industry in general for the following reasons:

1 Widely regarded as one of the more complex moulded food packaging items, this provides further proof of the viability of banana fibre as a replacement for plastic.

2 Clamshells are used extensively throughout the quick service food industry by chains such as McDonald's and KFC, providing a significant commercial opportunity.

**3** Made of 100% refined banana fibre, the clamshells are completely biodegradable, creating the opportunity to drastically reduce landfill produced by the food service industry.

Now that we've successfully produced clamshells, our next step is to begin negotiations with potential clients to enter into licensing arrangements with businesses looking to set up food packaging product facilities."

Ramy Azer, Managing Director.

"I'm excited by the opportunity this presents, both commercially for the Company and environmentally, due to the huge amounts of plastic landfill this will displace," said Managing Director Ramy Azer.

Produced in the recently leased moulded fibre packaging facility in Sharqiah, Egypt, the output from the factory, including clamshells, will be provided as samples to potential clients that are interested in establishing food packaging product facilities.





# **DID YOU KNOW**

#### Banana waste in numbers

One hectare of banana plantation produces approximately 220 tonnes of waste per year. With approximately ten million hectares of banana plantation worldwide, we estimate there is 2.2 billion tonnes of waste created each year.

In addition to providing an alternative to plastic and forest sourced wood products, Papyrus' technology also offers the additional benefit of utilising this huge amount of agri-waste which would otherwise contribute to greenhouses gases during decomposition.



### AGRI-FOOD WASTE IS GOING BANANAS GLOBALLY

t is estimated that 1.3 billion tons of food, about onethird of the annual production for human use, is globally lost or wasted every year. Food loss and waste equal a major loss of earth resources, such as land, water, and energy, and lead to greater greenhouse gas emissions, which together contribute to climate change.

Agri-food waste originates throughout the whole food supply chain, from production to postharvesting, industrial processing, distribution, domestic processing, and consumption, with wastage volumes differing among phases and food commodities. In recent decades, the world population increased up to seven billion, generating around 683 million tons of agri-food waste, 34% related to waste-loss of

food produced worldwide.

This issue concerning wastes has also been acknowledged as one of the characteristics in the supply chain of the agrifood industry, in which, generally, by-products are considered as waste rather than viewed as a new resource to be utilised. As the wastes are immediately disposed, the failure to gain economic value from the by-products is inevitable.

The use of this wasteloss has become a topic of great interest, leading to the transition and implementation of a circular economy model. The objective is to close the life cycle of the products through an increase and optimisation of use. Utilising a circular economy application, agricultural waste can be turned into bio-products such as fertilisers, energy, materials and compounds.

To continue reading the full blog article <u>click here.</u>