APCO Performance Summary

Company Name:	**The Lincoln Electric Company (Australia) Proprietary Limited**
Trading As:	**Lincoln Electric Australia**
ABN:	**36000040308**

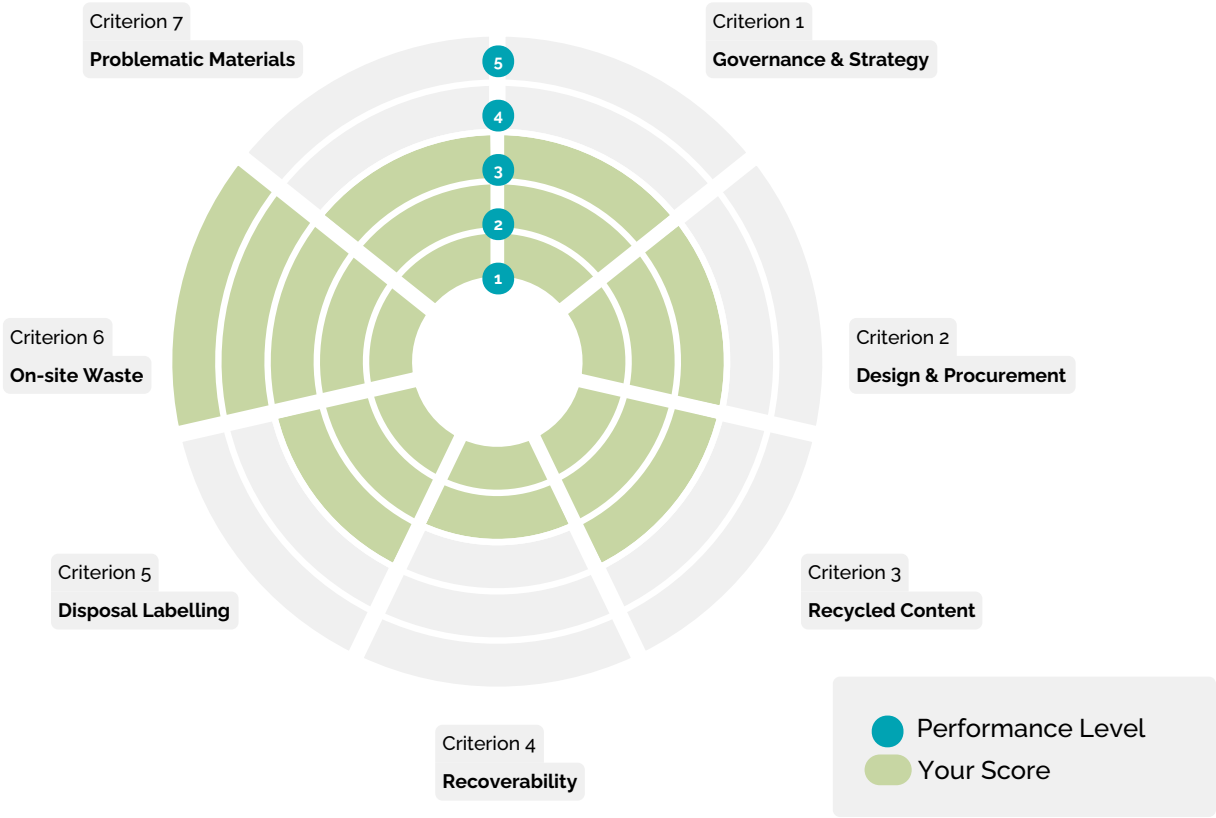
Overall Performance 49% - Advanced

The score above and chart below indicate your organisation's overall performance in the **2026** APCO Annual Report. With your chosen reporting period of **January, 2025 - December, 2025**, you have achieved a **Advanced** overall performance level.

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Criteria Performance Levels

The chart below indicates your organisation's performance against each of the Packaging Sustainability Framework criteria in the 2026 APCO Annual Report. Each band represents a performance level with the green indicating your level of performance for each.



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About APCO Annual Reporting

Understanding APCO Annual Reporting performance levels:

1	**Getting Started:**	You are at the start of your packaging sustainability journey.
2	**Good Progress:**	You have made some first steps on your packaging sustainability journey.
3	**Advanced:**	You have taken tangible action on your packaging sustainability journey.
4	**Leading:**	You have made significant progress on your packaging sustainability journey.
5	**Beyond Best Practice:**	You have received the highest performance level and have made significant progress on your packaging sustainability journey.

Packaging Sustainability Framework criteria

Criterion 1: **Governance & Strategy**	This criteria considers actions to integrate packaging sustainability into business strategies.
Criterion 2: **Design & Procurement**	This criteria considers actions taken to ensure that sustainability principles are considered in the design or procurement of both new and existing packaging through use of the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs).
Criterion 3: **Recycled Content**	This criteria considers actions taken to increase or optimise the amount of recycled material used by your organisation.
Criterion 4: **Recoverability**	This criteria considers actions taken to improve the recovery of packaging at end-of-life and increase use of reusable packaging.
Criterion 5: **Disposal Labelling**	This criteria considers the extent to which packaging has been labelled to help consumers determine what to do with packaging at end-of-life.
Criterion 6: **On-site Waste**	This criteria considers progress in increasing the amount of on-site solid waste being diverted from landfill.
Criterion 7: **Problematic Materials**	This criteria considers the extent to which organisations are actively phasing out problematic and unnecessary single-use plastic packaging and preventing/reducing litter.

APCO Annual Report Criteria Performance & Responses

Provided below are your organisation's responses to the questions within the APCO Annual Report as well as a performance level for each criteria.

Criterion 1:

Governance & Strategy: 3 Advanced

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Q1.1.a - During your 12-month reporting period, did your organisation have a documented strategy that included goals (objectives) and targets for packaging sustainability that addressed the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs) or equivalent?	● Yes ○ No
Q1.1.b - Did your organisation's strategy include a commitment to contribute to the achievement of the National Packaging Targets?	● Yes ○ No
Q1.1.c - Was this strategy integrated within your business processes and approved by an executive or board of directors?	● Yes ○ No
Q1.2 - Did you regularly communicate and promote packaging sustainability objectives and targets within your organisation?	○ Yes ● No
Q1.3 - Did you regularly engage or communicate with external stakeholders (suppliers, customers, final consumers, community groups etc.) relating to the environmental impact of your packaging?	○ Yes ● No
Q1.4 - Did you actively participate in any initiatives to promote packaging sustainability?	○ Yes ● No

Supporting Evidence

Criterion 2:

Design & Procurement: 3 Advanced

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Q2.1.a - How many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging have been reviewed against the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs) or equivalent in the last 5 years?	45
Q2.1.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	Medium
Q2.2 - Did you require your suppliers to use the SPGs or equivalent for your packaging?	○ Yes ● No ○ N/A (conduc

Q2.3 - Please tell us about any positive outcomes from your SPG reviews.

Q2.4 - Do you believe applying the SPGs delivered business value to your organisation?	○ Yes ● No

Q2.5 - Which of the following Sustainable Packaging Principles were considered in reviews of your organisation's packaging against the SPGs?

Design for recovery	○ Yes ● No
Optimise material efficiency	● Yes ○ No
Design to reduce product waste	● Yes ○ No
Eliminate hazardous materials	● Yes ○ No
Use of renewable materials	● Yes ○ No
Use recycled materials	● Yes ○ No
Design to minimise litter	● Yes ○ No
Design for transport efficiency	● Yes ○ No
Design for accessibility	● Yes ○ No
Provide consumer information on environmental sustainability	● Yes ○ No
Q2.6.a - How many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging were optimised for material efficiency in the last 5 years?	5
Q2.6.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	Medium

Q2.6.c - Please tell us about any material savings you made.

Working with overseas suppliers to improve consolidation and palletization to increase packaging efficiency

Supporting Evidence

Criterion 3:

Recycled Content: 3 Advanced

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Q3.1 - In your 12-month reporting period, did you have a policy or procedure to buy products and/or packaging made from recycled content?

● Yes ○ No

Q3.2 - Which of the following products that you either purchased or distributed contained recycled content?

- ● Primary packaging that you used to sell your products
- ● Secondary packaging that you used to sell your products
- ● Tertiary packaging that you used to sell your products
- ● Your products
- ○ Other items which you purchased (e.g. office stationary and suppliers etc.)
- ○ None of the above

Q3.3.a - How many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging included at least some recycled content?

25

Q3.3.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.

Medium

Q3.4 - If you did not use recycled content in any of your packaging, please indicate why:

- ○ Could not find a supplier who provided recycled content
- ○ We could not use recyled content in contact with our product
- ○ Cost was prohibitive
- ○ Other / space for comment

- ● Not applicable

Supporting Evidence

Criterion 4:

Recoverability: 2 Good Progress

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Q4.1.a - During your 12-month reporting period, how many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging consisted of separable components that were all recoverable at end-of-life? (e.g. a jar with a lid that are both recyclable)	50
Q4.1.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	High
Q4.2.a - How many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging consisted of separable components with mixed recoverability at end-of-life? (e.g. a jar that is recyclable with a lid that is not recyclable)	0
Q4.2.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	High
Q4.3 - How many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging were assessed in the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP)?	20

Q4.4 - If you used compostable packaging, please indicate the type(s) of compostable certification (if any):

- ○ Certified home compostable (AS5810)
- ○ Certified industrial compostable (AS4736)
- ○ Certified compostable to another certification
- ○ Compostable (not certified)
- ● Not applicable

Q4.5 - How many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging were not recoverable at end-of-life and went to landfill? (i.e. not recyclable or compostable)	15
Q4.6.a - Did you investigate opportunities for reuse or provide your customers with any reusable packaging?	○ Yes ● No
Q4.6.b - If yes, how many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging were designed to be reused?	
Q4.6.c - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	

Q4.7.a - Which of the following reusable items did your organisation utilise during your 12-month reporting period?

- ● Pallets
- ● Crates
- ● Drums
- ○ Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs)
- ○ Other (please specify)

- ○ None of the above

Q4.7.b - Tick all that apply - Were these reused:
- Internally (between your organisation's sites & facilities)?
- Externally (with other organisations such as suppliers or customers)?

Pallets	● Internal	● External
Crates	● Internal	○ External
Drums	● Internal	○ External
Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs)	○ Internal	○ External
Other (specified above)	○ Internal	○ External

Q4.8 - Other than APCO, did your organisation pay a fee to any stewardship collection initiatives? If so, please provide details.

- ○ Our organisation operated its own packaging take back recovery service for customers
- ○ Our organisation participated in an established program/s for recycling
- ○ Our organisation participated in an established program/s for reuse

Please provide details of the own packaging take back, recycling and/or reuse collection initiative

- ● None - Our organisation did not participate in any stewardship initiatives that incur a fee

Supporting Evidence

Criterion 5:

Disposal Labelling: 3 Advanced

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Q5.1.a - During your 12-month reporting period, how many of your 65 Tonnes of packaging had disposallabelling on-pack to inform the consumer of how to correctly dispose of the packaging?	20
Q5.1.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	High

Q5.2 - Which of the following labels did your company use?

- ○ Australasian Recycling Label
- ● Mobius Loop/Recycling symbol
- ○ Tidy man
- ○ Written instructions
- ○ Other (please specify)

- ○ None of the above

Supporting Evidence

Criterion 6:

On-site Waste: 5 Beyond Best Practice

1 Getting Started	2 Good Progress	3 Advanced	4 Leading	5 Beyond Best Practice

Q6.1 - Tick which of the following packaging materials you had on-site recycling programs for during your 12-month reporting period:

- ● Paper/cardboard
- ○ Soft plastics
- ● Rigid plastics
- ● Timber
- ○ Textiles
- ○ Glass
- ● Metals
- ○ Other (please specify)

- ○ All materials have recycling programs
- ○ None of the above

Q6.2.a - Over your 12-month reporting period, how much of the waste your organisation generated on-site was diverted from landfill (was recycled, composted, reused or sent for energy recovery)?	94%
Q6.2.b - Please indicate the accuracy of this response.	High

Q6.2.c - Which of the following facilities were included in the above waste data?

- ● Offices
- ● Warehouses
- ○ Stores
- ○ Manufacturing Facilities
- ○ Other (please specify)

- ○ None of the above

Supporting Evidence

Criterion 7:

Problematic Materials: 3 Advanced

1 Getting Started | 2 Good Progress | 3 Advanced | 4 Leading | 5 Beyond Best Practice

Q7.1 - Over your 12-month reporting period, which of the following activities did you undertake to help reduce the impact of litter?

- ● Conducted regular clean ups
- ○ Participated in a planned Business Clean-Up Day
- ○ Sponsored a clean up day
- ○ Undertook a litter education campaign
- ○ Other (please specify)

- ○ None of the above

Q7.2 - Please indicate which of the following problematic, unnecessary and single-use plastic items your organisation sold or distributed over your 12-month reporting period:

- ○ Lightweight plastic shopping bags
- ○ Fragmentable (e.g. oxo-degradable) plastics
- ○ Expanded polystyrene (EPS) packaging for food and beverage service or retail fresh produce
- ○ EPS loose fill packaging
- ○ Moulded EPS packaging for white/brown goods or electronics
- ○ Rigid polyvinyl chloride (PVC) packaging
- ● Rigid polystyrene (PS) packaging
- ○ Opaque polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles
- ○ Rigid plastic packaging with carbon black
- ○ Not applicable

Q7.3 - Please indicate which of the following problematic, unnecessary or single-use plastic items your organisation is investigating options to or are actively working to phase-out:

- ○ Lightweight plastic shopping bags
- ○ Fragmentable (e.g. oxo-degradable) plastics
- ○ Expanded polystyrene (EPS) packaging for food and beverage service or retail fresh produce
- ○ EPS loose fill packaging
- ○ Moulded EPS packaging for white/brown goods or electronics
- ○ Rigid polyvinyl chloride (PVC) packaging
- ● Rigid polystyrene (PS) packaging
- ○ Opaque polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles
- ○ Rigid plastic packaging with carbon black
- ○ Not applicable

Q7.4 - Please indicate which of the following problematic, unnecessary or single-use plastic items your organisation has successfully phased out in the last 12-months

- ○ Lightweight plastic shopping bags
- ○ Fragmentable (e.g. oxo-degradable) plastics
- ○ Expanded polystyrene (EPS) packaging for food and beverage service or retail fresh produce
- ○ EPS loose fill packaging
- ○ Moulded EPS packaging for white/brown goods or electronics
- ○ Rigid polyvinyl chloride (PVC) packaging
- ○ Rigid polystyrene (PS) packaging
- ○ Opaque polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles
- ○ Rigid plastic packaging with carbon black
- ● Not applicable

Supporting Evidence

Additional Information

- ● No additional information

Please use the space below to provide your feedback on your experience with this Annual Report

Describe initiatives, processes or practices that you have implemented during your 12-month reporting period that have improved packaging sustainability.

Describe any opportunities or constraints that affected performance within your 12-month reporting period.

Describe any examples or case studies of exemplary packaging sustainability conducted by your organisation during your 12-month reporting period.