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This year's judges were Randy Panday, Erich Kühl, Kevin Naidu, Martin Stewart and Bruce Allen.

## Committee committed to member value-adding initiatives

**CELEBRATING the Flexographic Print Excellence Awards is the highlight of the Flexographic Technical Association of South Africa's (FTASA's) calendar, but it's just the start of what's planned for the year ahead. It's exciting working with an executive committee that's dedicated and committed to the development of flexography and its excellence in southern Africa.**

Almost a year ago, Derek Murison stepped down as chairman of the Flexographic Technical Association of SA (FTASA) after holding the reigns for many years. Following Derek's retirement, the executive committee decided to recognise his contribution to flexography in southern Africa with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Shortly after Derek's retirement, Bill Marshall, who is well-known in the industry, resigned from the FTASA executive due to his workload and pivotal role at other organisations. We all recall Bill's quick humour and wit during the awards' presentation and he will indeed be missed in this role as well as for the other significant contributions he has made to FTASA. The committee also awarded Bill a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions. This leaves FTASA with a rather new executive committee, who are all champing at the bit to see flexography flourish in southern Africa.

All change takes time. I am, however, confident that the new executive consisting of Bruce Allen (Iplex Machinery), Erich Kühl (general secretary), Ricky Maconi (KB Labels), Susi Moore (*PACKAGING & Print Media*), Kevin Naidu (DuPont Advanced Printing), Mthobisi Bruce Nhleko (Pavati Plastics Southern Africa), Randhir Panday (SA Label Printers), Gordon Smith (XSYS) and Kevin Tucker (Beswick Machinery) will bring refreshing change and that you will see value in a FTASA membership.

Technical webinars that address cutting-edge subjects in flexography and a WhatsApp group where members can raise technical questions to be answered

by industry specialists are among the committee's plans. We'll kick off the first webinar next year with the topic of extended gamut printing, where industry panelists will guide members through this interesting topic. We, therefore, encourage membership and are confident that it will add value to your businesses.

Judging of the annual Print Excellence entries took place over two days early in October. The judges were impressed by the high standard of entries submitted across the board. Criteria such as register, plate to substrate pressure, ink laydown and consistency were key in deciding which entries were rejected, awarded and the one that ultimately won the prestigious 'Best on Show' award. Although it was a pity to see that some stalwart entrants weren't present this year, it was exciting to note that a few newcomers' entries were right up there with the best of the best.

In the past, comments such as 'What is the point of entering, the same companies win year after year?' were heard by committee members and entrants alike. Just like the Lottery, if you don't buy a ticket – you cannot win. The committee encourages all printers who believe they have done exceptional work in the coming year to enter the 2024 FTASA Print Excellence Awards and just as the giant Goliath fell to the stone of David, your company may well be receiving one or more of these prestigious awards.

The committee reiterates its thanks to this year's sponsors and is sure that each contribution will be recognised by those attending the awards luncheon in November. We hope you enjoy the different format at the event and can trust that we'll continue to improve it each year.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2023 FTASA Excellence Awards. Once again, you have shown that attention to detail produces results that will stand up to any print job globally.

**Bruce Allen, FTASA chairman**

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the information provided, the publisher (Packaging Chain cc), cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions.

# BEST ON SHOW



## Seven Oaks 6+1 Nil Nisi Optimum

Printer: Inkon Labels

Press: Mark Andy Performance Series

Repro: In-house

Plates: DuPont Cyrel HIQS

Inks: Flint UV

Substrate: Matte TTP hotmelt and gold cold foil;  
high-build, gloss and matte varnishes

According to the judges, the winning entry truly stood out due to its exceptional performance. Despite using analogue plates, it rivalled the latest technologies, showcasing Inkon's printing expertise. Facing numerous challenges head-on, the team's precision in achieving perfect registration, especially with effects like gold foiling, was remarkable. The ink laydown was superb and consistency outstanding.

In summary, Inkon's unwavering commitment to quality, mastery of older techniques and new technologies, and its ability to conquer challenges made this entry the clear overall winner.



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## FINALIST 2023 FTASA AWARDS WITH 3 ENTRIES.



# BEST NEW ENTRANT

Up 'n' Go Instant Maize Porridge Banana Flavour 1kg

Printer: Flowe-Pac  
 Press: Bobst Schiavi  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Esko Crystal  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: PET 97µm



According to the adjudicators, this was the best new entrant because of the exemplary registration and ink laydown.

# LABELS

## SELF-ADHESIVE (LINE/TONE)

### JOINT GOLD

#### Seven Oaks 6+1 Nil Nisi Optimum

GOLD

Printer: Inkon Labels  
Press: **Mark Andy Performance Series**  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel HIQS  
Inks: Flint UV  
Substrate: Matte TTP hotmelt and gold cold foil; high-build, gloss and matte varnishes



‘Exceptional result using an analogue plate,’ enthused the adjudicators.

#### William Robertson Chenin Blanc

GOLD

Printer: Label and Print Technologies  
Press: **Mark Andy Scout**  
Repro: Acme Graphics  
Plates: MacDermid ITP M  
Inks: J&V Inks (water-based)  
Substrate: Crystal Salt



‘Exceptional crisp print and varnish to print register,’ remarked the judges.

### JOINT BRONZE

#### Rocco Torro White Chocolate

BRONZE

Printer: Label and Print Technologies  
Press: **Mark Andy Scout**  
Repro: Syrelinc Process  
Plates: MacDermid  
Inks: J&V Inks (water-based)  
Substrate: Crystal Salt



‘Outstanding print precision and detail,’ was the adjudicators’ comment.

#### Isoplus Holding Gel 225g

BRONZE

Printer: Siyaka  
Press: **Mark Andy Performance Series**  
Repro: Repro Flex  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel Esx  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: Metallised polypropylene



‘Good, clean print,’ noted the judges.

#### Saronsberg

BRONZE

Printer: MCC Label Paarl  
Press: Nilpeter FA4  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: MacDermid  
Inks: Zeller+Gmelin  
Substrate: Cast gloss



‘Excellent ink coverage and vibrancy,’ the adjudicators stated.

# LABELS

## SELF-ADHESIVE (PROCESS)



JOINT GOLD

### Michelle's Caramel Spread 3kg



Printer: Inkon Labels  
Press: **Mark Andy 2200**  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel HIQS  
Inks: Flint UV  
Substrate: Semi-gloss hotmelt and lamination

The judges highlighted the CMYK screen register transfer achieved with the analogue plate.

### Sauce-A-Licious Breakfast Sauce Worcester 250ml



Printer: SA Label Printers  
Press: **Mark Andy 2200**  
Repro: Dimension Brand & Packaging  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
Inks: Flint UV  
Substrate: White polypropylene

The adjudicators declared that the reverse register screen print was precise.

### Robertsons Gang Printed Herbs & Spices



Printer: First Impression Labels  
Press: Nilpeter FA4  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: Cavitated white polypropylene

The judges commented on the combination of extended multi gamut print, good register and screen achieved.



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# LABELS

## SELF-ADHESIVE (PROCESS)



### JOINT SILVER

#### Château Gâteaux 4 Variety Pack Cheesecake



Printer: SA Label Printers  
Press: **Mark Andy 2200**  
Repro: Dimension Brand & Packaging  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
Inks: Flint UV  
Substrate: White polypropylene

The clean print and good register impressed the adjudicators.



#### Woolworths Beauty Simply Floral Rose Body Lotion 100ml



Printer: SA Label Printers  
Press: **Mark Andy 2200**  
Repro: Dimension Brand & Packaging  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
Ink: Flint UV  
Substrate: White polypropylene

'Remarkably crisp and sharp print,' the judges commented.



### Finalist

#### Vuyo's Braaiwors

Printer: Label and Print Technologies  
Press: **Mark Andy Scout**  
Repro: Acme Graphics  
Plates: MacDermid ITP M  
Inks: J&V Inks (water-based)  
Substrate: Semi-gloss hotmelt

'Impressive registration and ink transfer,' the judges enthused.



#### Deli Spices Orange Flavoured Jelly 3kg

Printer: Label and Print Technologies  
Press: **Mark Andy Scout**  
Repro: Acme Graphics  
Plates: MacDermid ITP M  
Inks: J&V Inks (water-based)  
Substrate: Semi-gloss hotmelt

The adjudicators applauded the remarkable print consistency throughout.



#### Mbali Chenin Blanc

Printer: MCC Label Paarl  
Press: Nilpeter FA4  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: MacDermid  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: Clear polypropylene



'Good white transfer under the entire image,' the judges stated.



# LABELS

## WRAPAROUND

### Airwick Anti-Tobacco 280ml



Printer: Siyaka  
 Press: **Mark Andy Performance Series**  
 Repro: Repro Flex  
 Plates: DuPont Cyrel Esx  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: BOPP white laminated to BOPP clear

The crisp fine types and punchy vibrant results achieved impressed the adjudicators.

# CORRUGATED

## COATED (PROCESS)



### Texas Burger 12 x 85g



Printer: Mpac Corrugated Pinetown  
 Press: Bobst Masterflex  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: MacDermid  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: Coated corrugated board

According to the judges, good use of combination plates resulted in a punchy, vibrant print.

### Typek A4 Lid and Base



Printer: Mpac Corrugated Pinetown  
 Press: Bobst Masterflex  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: MacDermid  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: Coated corrugated board

The adjudicators highlighted the good register as well as the clean and vibrant printing.

# LAMINATED CARTONS

## LINE/TONE



### Lextalis Emvelo Emahewu Cream 900g



Printer: Nampak Liquid Cartons  
Press: Canadian Primographic Systems  
Repro: Polymer Art  
Plates: MacDermid LUX ITP  
Inks: Siegwirk Inks  
Substrate: Polycoated polyethylene

The judges praised the good register of this combination print.

### Danone Inkomazi 1-litre



Printer: Nampak Liquid Cartons  
Press: Canadian Primographic Systems  
Repro: Polymer Art  
Plates: MacDermid LUX ITP  
Inks: Siegwirk Inks  
Substrate: Polycoated polyethylene

The good solid, clean type was favourably commented on by the adjudicators.



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# LAMINATED CARTONS PROCESS



## Spar Fruits of Paradise 2-litre



Printer: Nampak Liquid Cartons  
 Press: Canadian Primographic Systems  
 Repto: Polymer Art  
 Plates: MacDermid LUX ITP  
 Inks: Siegwark Inks  
 Substrate: PolyAlu-coated polyethylene

The judges were impressed by the punchy, vibrant print and excellent ink laydown.

## Parmalat Yogofun Tropical 900g



Printer: Nampak Liquid Cartons  
 Press: Canadian Primographic Systems  
 Repto: Polymer Art  
 Plates: MacDermid LUX ITP  
 Inks: Siegwark Inks  
 Substrate: Polycoated polyethylene

'A good quality print with only a slight misregister denying this entry from winning silver,' said the adjudicators.

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The FTASA thanks all sponsors for their generous support of the Print Excellence Awards, without which a programme of this magnitude could not operate.





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## PAPER BAGS & SACKS UNCOATED (LINE/TONE)

**FUJIFILM**  
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### Illovo White Sugar 10kg

GOLD

Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Asahi AFP  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 125g/m<sup>2</sup> Baywhite

'Register and transfer have resulted in exceptional vibrance,' the judges noted.



### Illovo White Sugar 500g

SILVER

Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Asahi AFP  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 90g/m<sup>2</sup> Axello Swan

The adjudicators applauded the consistently high-quality printing standards.



# PAPER BAGS & SACKS

## UNCOATED (PROCESS)

### bioBED Hemp Cat Litter 20-litre



Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Stallion Repro  
Plates: Flint ACT  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 125g/m<sup>2</sup> Baywhite



The judges were impressed by the complex design and excellent print results.

### JOINT SILVER

### Illovo White Sugar 1kg



Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Asahi AFP  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 75g/m<sup>2</sup> Axello Swan



The adjudicators highlighted the superb print quality and definition.



### Illovo White Sugar 2kg



Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Asahi AFP  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 75g/m<sup>2</sup> Axello Swan

'Remarkable print consistency throughout,' praised the judges.

# PAPER BAGS & SACKS

UNCOATED (PROCESS)

**FUJIFILM**  
Value from Innovation

JOINT SILVER

## Illovo White Sugar 2.5kg

Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Asahi AFP  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 75g/m<sup>2</sup> Axello Swan

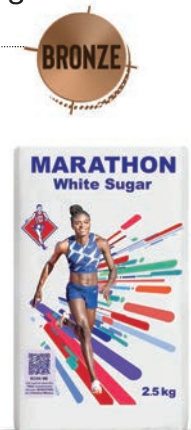
Exceptional quality in every print impressed the adjudicators.



## Marathon White Sugar 2.5kg

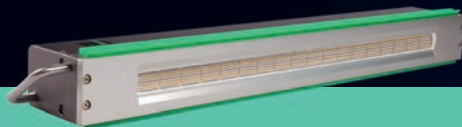
Printer: Taurus Packaging  
Press: W&H Miraflex  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Asahi AFP  
Inks: Sun Chemical  
Substrate: 90g/m<sup>2</sup> Axello Swan

'Good print on uncoated paper,' stated the judges.



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## FLEXIBLE PACKAGING NARROW WEB (LINE/TONE)

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### African Dew Cream Liqueur

SILVER

Printer: First Impression Labels  
Press: **Mark Andy Professional Series**  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: 45µm shrink film

The adjudicators mentioned the high standard and good register achieved.



### Puma Super Engine Oil 20W-50 1-litre

BRONZE

Printer: Inkon Labels  
Press: Mark Andy Performance Series  
Repro: In-house  
Plates: MacDermid MVP  
Inks: Flint UV  
Substrate: PET shrink 40µm



'High standard of printing achieved with analogue plate technology,' remarked the judges.

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# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

## NARROW WEB (PROCESS)

### Shoprite Aloe Vera Drink

Printer: First Impression Labels  
 Press: Nilpeter FA6  
 Repro: Acme Graphics  
 Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: Polyolefin



The adjudicators noted that a slight misregister in the yellow denied this entry from winning gold.

### JOINT BRONZE

#### Twizza Cream Soda 2-litre

Printer: MCC Labels Durban South Africa  
 Press: W&H Miraflex  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Esko Crystal  
 Inks: Sun Chemical  
 Substrate: BOPP



'Consistent quality throughout,' the judges stated.

#### Twizza Cola 2-litre

Printer: MCC Labels Durban South Africa  
 Press: W&H Miraflex  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Esko Crystal  
 Inks: Sun Chemical  
 Substrate: BOPP



'Consistent quality has ensured a well printed result,' the adjudicators remarked.

### Finalist

#### Pick n Pay Looney Tunes Yoghurt six pack

Printer: First Impression Labels  
 Press: Nilpeter FA4  
 Repro: In-house  
 Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: Metallised PET



A special mention of the excellent ink coverage and vibrancy as well as the notable sharpness and image definition was made by the judges.



# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

## MEDIUM WEB (LINE/TONE)



JOINT GOLD

### Shell Helix HX8 5W-40 5-litre



Printer: First Impression Labels  
 Press: Nilpeter FA6  
 Repro: In-house  
 Plates: DuPont Cyrel DPR  
 Inks: ColorGen  
 Substrate: PE100 top white

The adjudicators highlighted the smooth vignette achieved.

### Farmer Brown Nourish Crumbed Chicken Wholegrain Coated



Printer: Colpak  
 Press: Bobst Gidue Athena  
 Repro: Polygraphics  
 Plates: MacDermid ITP  
 Inks: Millian UV  
 Substrate: PET 12µm

The judges appreciated the sharp, clean print.

### Santa Anna's Corn Tortilla Chips 1kg



Printer: DBC Plastics  
 Press: Uteco Onyx  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Flint FTF  
 Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
 Substrate: Matte BOPP

'Well printed with good attention to detail,' commented the adjudicators.

# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING MEDIUM WEB (LINE/TONE)



Finalist

## Truda Sweet Chilli Naks (12 x 100g)

Printer: Flowe-Pac  
Press: Uteco Onyx  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: LDPE



'Remarkable print consistency throughout,' enthused the judges.



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# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

## MEDIUM WEB (PROCESS)



JOINT GOLD

### Maynards Sweet & Sour Fruit Jubes 125g



Printer: Siyaka  
Press: **Mark Andy Performance Series**  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel Esx  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: BOPP white laminated to BOPP clear

‘The solid ink laydown delivers an exceptional punch,’  
said the adjudicators.



### Transformers Lucky Packet



Printer: Siyaka  
Press: **Mark Andy Performance Series**  
Repro: Repro Flex  
Plates: DuPont Cyrel Esx  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: BOPP white laminated to BOPP clear

‘Accurate registration has ensured precision  
at its best,’ the judges noted.

### Rani Roti Original (5 pieces)



Printer: Flowe-Pac  
Press: Uteco Onyx  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: PET LD laminate



The adjudicators applauded the outstanding  
print precision and detail.

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FLEXIBLE PACKAGING  
WIDE WEB (LINE/TONE)



Paco's Corn Chips Assorted  
Flavour (50 x 22g)



Printer: Flowe-Pac  
Press: Uteco Onyx  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: LDPE

The adjudicators praised the pristine precision and outstanding consistency.

FLEXIBLE PACKAGING  
WIDE WEB (PROCESS)



JOINT GOLD

McCain Crispy Sweet Potato Fries 500g



Printer: DBC Plastics  
Press: Uteco Onyx  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Flint FTF  
Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
Substrate: ML LDPE 50µm

'Good register alongside truly vibrant colours provide stunning results,' the judges enthused.



Future Life Smart Food 50g



Printer: Art Flexible Packaging  
Press: Soma Optima  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
Substrate: BOPP

The adjudicators commended the team's attention to detail, including impressive register and ink transfer.





# STAY CONNECTED TO PACKAGING PROFESSIONALS

The Institute of Packaging SA (IPSA) aims to promote high standards and professionalism in the packaging industry, to provide opportunities for networking and education and to promote the recognition of packaging as a profession.

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# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

## WIDE WEB (PROCESS)



### Future Life Mothers Food 385g



Printer: Art Flexible Packaging  
 Press: Soma Optima  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Esko Crystal  
 Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
 Substrate: BOPP

The judges classified this entry as an example of great work.



### Simba Mexican Chilli and Salt & Vinegar Co-Print



Printer: Constantia Flexibles  
 Press: W&H Miraflex  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Esko Crystal  
 Inks: Sun Chemical  
 Substrate: PET

'Excellent result from four-colour process and co-printing,' enthused the adjudicators.



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# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

## WIDE WEB (PROCESS)



### JOINT SILVER

#### Field and Flavour Potato Chips 120g Salt & Vinegar



Printer: CTP Flexibles  
Press: Bobst Fischer & Krecke  
Repro: Polygraphics  
Plates: MacDermid ITP  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: Matte BOPP laminated to clear BOPP  
(both 20µm)

'A great result thanks to the clean print,' the judges stated.

#### Up 'n' Go Instant Maize Porridge Banana Flavour 1kg



Printer: Flowe-Pac  
Press: Bobst Schiavi  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: PET 97µm

According to the adjudicators, this was the best new entrant because of the exemplary registration and ink laydown.

#### Fry's Soya Mince 300g



Printer: Art Flexible Packaging  
Press: Soma Optima  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
Substrate: BOPP



The judges applauded the exceptional quality in every print.



Finalist

## Munchy Crunch Corn Snack Fruit Chutney

Printer: Flowe-Pac  
Press: Uteco Onyx  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Esko Crystal  
Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
Substrate: BOPP 20µm



The adjudicators noted that high-quality print was evident.

## McCain Delish Rosemary & Garlic Sweet Potato Chips 500g

Printer: DBC Plastics  
Press: Uteco Onyx  
Repro: Polyflex  
Plates: Flint ACT  
Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
Substrate: ML LDPE 50µm



The judges praised the high-quality register and repro work.



Manufactures a wide range of purpose made printed polyethylene and polypropylene (WPP) packaging products at its factories in both Riverhorse Valley, Durban and Isithebe.

DBC Plastics is a supplier of the following flexible packaging products:

- Quad Seal Bags
- Bottom Seal & Side Seal Bags
- Back Seal Pouches
- Form Fill & Seal Sheeting (FFS)
- Printed BOPP Film & Other Substrates
- Laminated Printed Bags
- Rigid Handle Bags
- Patch & Loop Handle Bags

DBC Wovens is a major supplier of woven polypropylene industrial bags for the packaging of fertilizer, milled maize & wheat, sugar, animal feeds, dogfood, industrial chemicals, etc.

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info@dbcwovens.co.za

[www.dbcpackaging.co.za](http://www.dbcpackaging.co.za)



# FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

## WIDE WEB (PROCESS)



Finalist

### Pampers Adult Cat Deep Sea Delight 2kg

Printer: DBC Plastics  
 Press: Uteco Onyx  
 Repro: Polyflex  
 Plates: Flint FTF  
 Inks: Hi-Tech Inks  
 Substrate: Clear PET 12µm



The adjudicators commended the consistent print quality.

### Field & Flavour Potato Chips 20g Tomato

Printer: CTP Flexibles  
 Press: Bobst Fischer & Krecke  
 Repro: Polygraphics  
 Plates: MacDermid ITP  
 Inks: Flint Packaging Inks  
 Substrate: Matte BOPP laminated to clear BOPP (both 20µm)



'Exceptional quality in every print,' said the judges.

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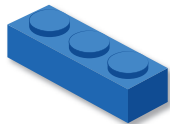
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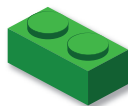
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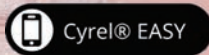


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