



MEDIA RELEASE

CHEP's innovative food grade plastic pallet is a win for the food manufacturing industry

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND, 26 August 2016 - CHEP New Zealand has introduced a new sustainable and fully recyclable food grade plastic pallet to the New Zealand market.

Continuing CHEP's tradition of global supply chain innovation, the latest packaging solution to emerge from CHEP's Innovation Centre in Orlando, Florida is poised to transform New Zealand's food manufacturing and processing industries.

CHEP New Zealand Country Manager, Mike O'Brien, said "All CHEP products introduced in to the local market come through a global innovation pipeline where the needs and requirements of the customer are central to product selection".

To identify a plastic pallet which met specific client and food industry requirements, CHEP sourced a range of pallets from manufacturers around the globe to be part of an intensive customer trial. Manufacturers from Germany, Belgium, Spain, China and Australia were all involved. Specific criteria established by CHEP, in consultation with key customers, narrowed the product group to one shortlisted pallet.

"The selected pallet was taken to CHEP's Innovation Centre and subjected to rigorous testing. The testing process yielded a truly innovative supply chain solution for the New Zealand market," Mr O'Brien said.

"As a result of the selection and testing process, CHEP's next generation closed-top plastic pallet satisfies local customer requirements, particularly those operating to strict food hygiene standards."

The enhanced all-plastic design of the new CHEP pallet is the first of its kind for food grade plastic pallets in New Zealand and provides customers with significant benefits such as flexibility of use, load stability, and anti-slip properties.

Suitable for end-to-end use within food manufacturing and processing environments, as well as throughout the supply chain, the new CHEP plastic pallet features an increased base surface area design, which has demonstrated superior load stability over existing plastic pallets and integrity with heavy loads. This is particularly important for pallet loads that are racked in manufacturing facilities or warehouses.

Quality assurance testing looked at the plastic pallet's performance in response to a range of challenging real-life scenarios and assessed odour absorption and contamination risk. The pallet performed strongly across all tests and was deemed suitable for use with proteins and perishable products, and at all stages of the food manufacturing process.



One of the most important steps in the selection process was customer testing and in-market trials. Feedback from customers provided valuable insight to how the pallet will be used, and what features customers valued most.

“Our customers’ businesses are evolving rapidly and some customers are required to meet strict hygiene specifications,” Mr O’Brien said. “The new plastic pallets provide these customers with greater flexibility for use within their business.”

The new food grade plastic pallet has been available to some existing customers in the food and ingredients sector since mid-July 2016 and rollout will continue across 2016.

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Media contact for further information:

Andrea Brady, Catalyst Communication Consulting Limited
andrea@catalystcommunication.co.nz
+64 (0) 21 977 688

NOTES:

- The new CHEP plastic pallet is manufactured in Belgium to standard New Zealand pallet dimensions of 1200 x 1000 mm and each pallet is able to carry a load of up to 1250 kg racked, when used within specifications.
- The four-way entry design of the pallet means it is fully compatible with material handling equipment in use today.
- CHEP’s returnable and reusable products provide customers with environmentally sustainable packaging and supply chain solutions. The addition of the food grade plastic pallets to CHEP’s existing range of pallets and crates enables CHEP to meet customer requirements across a range of industries.

ABOUT CHEP

CHEP is a global leader in managed, returnable and reusable packaging solutions, serving many of the world’s largest companies in sectors such as consumer goods, fresh produce, beverage and automotive. CHEP’s service is environmentally sustainable and increases efficiency for customers while reducing operating risk and product damage. CHEP’s 11,500-plus employees and 300 million pallets and containers offer unparalleled coverage and exceptional value, supporting more than 500,000 customer touch-points more than 60 countries. Our customer portfolio includes global companies and brands such as Procter & Gamble, Sysco, Kellogg’s, Kraft, Nestlé, Ford and GM. CHEP is part of Brambles Limited. For more information, visit www.chep.com