



## POLYSTYRENE GETS THE JOB DONE!

Very few members of the public are aware of the tremendous versatility of polystyrene. The most recognizable forms of polystyrene packaging are:

- **Expanded Polystyrene** that is used to make cups, bowls, plates, trays, clamshells, meat trays and egg cartons as well as protective packaging for shipping electronics and other fragile items.
- **High Impact Polystyrene (HIPS) and clear General Purpose Polystyrene (GPPS)** that is used in products such as cutlery, yoghurt and cottage cheese containers, cups, clear salad containers, television sets, computer casings, CD boxes and make-up containers.

## POLYSTYRENE FAST FACTS

### Environmental Impact

- Polystyrene foam has a low carbon footprint because it is lightweight. Per unit it uses less: resources, energy to manufacture, fuel to transport and less material needs to be recycled.
- **No CFC's** (chlorofluorocarbons) are used in the manufacturing of expanded polystyrene helping to reduce the damage to the earth's ozone layer
- It uses less energy in manufacture and recycling than paper or glass
- Polystyrene is only a by product of oil conversion – no oil is drilled simply to produce Polystyrene

### Effective insulation

- Polystyrene offers excellent insulation properties and is widely used for packaging of take-away meals, hospital meals and cups for hot and cold beverages. No "double cupping" is needed and therefore reduces waste

### Hygienic

- Tests have shown that disposable food service ware such as polystyrene is more sanitary than reusable service ware. This helps prevent the spread of diseases

### Sturdy

- Polystyrene protects it's contents and maintains its strength and shape, it also displays food products well and is convenient and practical

### Efficient

- Only about 5 percent of expanded polystyrene foam packaging is polystyrene, the rest is air

### Convenient

- Today's busy lifestyles require convenience of affordable and quick take-out meals. Polystyrene packaging meets the demands of today's modern lifestyles by offering an economical and high quality food service product

### Economical

- Polystyrene food service products are 2 to 3 times more economical than paper board and reusable food service items

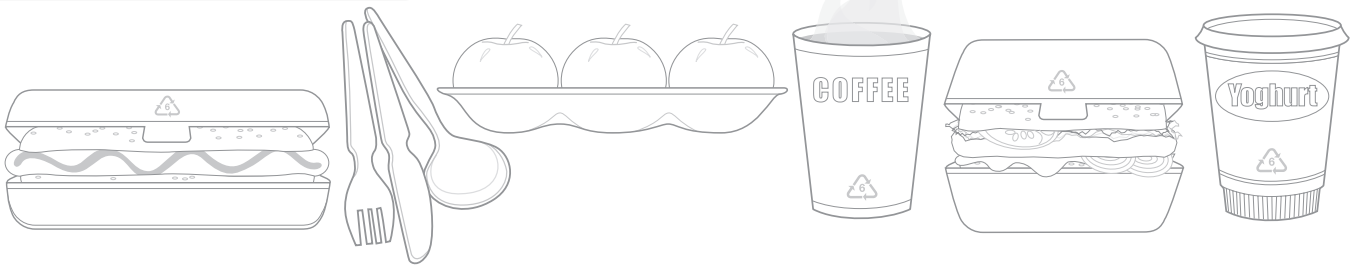
## Products do not litter – people do. What can you do to save the environment?

## RECYCLING

- Not only can Polystyrene be recycled, it **IS** recycled in South Africa and around the world
- In South Africa polystyrene is recycled into various products for example picture frames, coat hangers, seedling trays, cornices, skirtings, outdoor furniture, poles and decking.
- Research in SA has shown that Polystyrene takes up on average **less than 1%** of all landfill space, compared to other materials that take up more
  - Glass 9,7%
  - Metals 9,6%
  - Paper and Paperboard 37,1%
  - Other materials 35,7%
  - General Plastics 6,9%

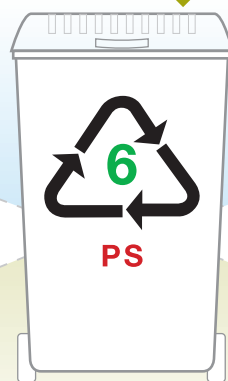
# POLYSTYRENE RECYCLING

## 1 Polystyrene packaging



## 2 Polystyrene waste sorted and recovered

Consumer waste   Shopping centres   Restaurants   Take-away outlets   Retail outlets   Hotels   Sporting events



Identify polystyrene with  disposable plates and cups, yoghurt containers, take-away food tubs and clamshell.

Polystyrene collectors  
Garden centres  
Drop-off sites

Polystyrene recycler

Polystyrene convertor

## 3 Products from recycled polystyrene

	Other items made from recycled polystyrene are coat hangers, seedling trays,			curtain (rods, finials, holdbacks), cornices, skirtings, outdoor furniture, poles and decking.
				
skirtings		cornices		hangers

Contact us for information and recycling of polystyrene

We support the

Polystyrene Packaging Council

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