

Nampak wraps up Gold Pack awards

At last week's Gold Pack Awards - the African packaging industry's equivalent of the Loeries - the Nampak Group won six gold awards, 12 silver awards and nine special trophies. In addition, the Group's Zimbabwe-based divisions netted seven 'Out of Africa' awards and won the prestigious 'Star of Africa' award for the best pack produced by an African operation outside South Africa.

Founded in 1976, by the Institute of Packaging SA, the Gold Packs is a biennial competition that recognises design innovation in the packaging industry, and offers development teams the opportunity to showcase their best - and most innovative - packaging solutions.

Nampak also won international acclaim last night, with five of its packs named as winners in the upcoming World Packaging Organisation (WPO) WorldStar Awards. These awards will be presented at a banquet at the WPO Conference in Beijing in April 2006.

Nampak's WorldStar winners included the 275ml slimline can, produced by its Bevcan division and making its mark as the largest tinplate slimline can in the world. It also won a Gold Pack gold award, as well as the 'Excellence in Steel Packaging' trophy. Another pack that took gold at the Gold Packs and a WorldStar award winner is Nampak Flexible's transparent soap wrapper, which is a South African first.

A unique, "curvy" carton, which has been dubbed the Britney-style carton, because it emulates the famous form of pop icon Britney, was also a WorldStar winner and took at Gold Pack silver award. It was produced by Nampak Cartons & Labels, for a range of cereal snack bars.

A further coup for Africa's largest packaging group was the award of a WorldStar to its Zimbabwe-based Hunyani division, for striking new packs for locally-manufactured ice lollies. This is the first time ever that a country outside South Africa has won a WorldStar award.

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