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○ ISSUE 3 | ○ JUNE | ○ 2008



# drinks bulletin

THE HOME OF REFRESHMENT BEVERAGES

Newsletter of the Australian Beverages Council Ltd (ABCL)  
and the Australasian Bottled Water Institute (ABWI)  
bringing you the latest news of the non-alcoholic,  
water based beverage industry.

## DAWSON STEPS DOWN & ABCL ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

Andrew Dawson (Cadbury Schweppes) stepped down as President of the Australian Beverages Council Ltd (ABCL) at the conclusion of AusDrinks2008. Joanna Price (Coca-Cola South Pacific) was the sole nominee to replace Andrew and was duly declared elected at the Board meeting on Sunday 18 May 2008.

Andrew's fantastic service to the industry was recognised at the Gala Dinner on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008. Tony Gentile, as both ABCL & ABWI Chief Executive stated at the presentation:

*"When Andrew advised me that he had tendered his resignation as Australian Beverages Council President ... I resolved to do some research. This is what we found - Andrew has been in the beverages industry for 25 years and at Schweppes for 20 years.*

*More important information however was that the best thing he did in his life was not working at Schweppes but marrying Jo, his lovely wife who has been a regular attendee at beverages conferences.*

*Andrew of course loves beverages, although soft drinks, fruit juices and bottled water run in non-specific order as 3<sup>rd</sup>,*

*4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> after 'cleansing ales and reds'".*

*However, we are not here to discuss his career, which still has a long way to go, nor his drinking preferences – we are here to note his exceptional contribution to both ABWI and the ABCL.*

*Andrew has served the beverages industry with distinction – first as a member of the Australian Soft Drinks Association (ASDA) Technical Committee. Whilst an active member of ASDA's Technical Committee he took a leading role in the negotiation with Harry Hillier in the formation of what was then IBWA's Australian Chapter and is today ABWI.*

*On Harry's retirement as President, Andrew became IBWA – Australian Chapter's President from 1996 to 1998. In 1998 while remaining a member of the ABWI Board; he was elected chairman of the ASDA Technical Committee. A position in which he served from 1998 to 2003.*

*After promotion within his company in 2003; Andrew was elected Vice-President of ASDA, a position he held for two years before being elected as President of the newly renamed Australian Beverages Council Ltd in 2004.*



ANDREW DAWSON

*Andrew has retained this position; with the exception of six months when Brad van Dijk was President, till today. This is a record equaled by few.*

*Andrew – on behalf of the whole Australian Beverage Industry, we thank you for your service and contribution, we salute your leadership and we wish you every success for the future!"*



## AUSDRINKS2008 A SMASHING SUCCESS!

*AusDrinks2008* held from the 18th - 20th May 2008 once again proved a success – Fantastic speakers, great social interaction & entertainment and a busy exhibition all joined in together perfectly in a wonderful setting on the Gold Coast.

Presentations that have been made available have been uploaded in the "members' only" section of the ABWI & ABCL websites.

The office is still receiving congratulatory emails and phone calls from a wide variety of members. We thank you all for your kind words and we appreciate being told of your views.

### Please Visit:

[www.australianbeverages.org](http://www.australianbeverages.org)  
or [www.bottledwater.org.au](http://www.bottledwater.org.au)

## AFJA TO BE MANAGED BY ABCL

With the impending retirement of long serving executive director Rolf Schufft in July, the Australian Fruit Juice Association (AFJA) has decided to move its association's management under the Australian Beverages Council umbrella.

AFJA will be managed on the same basis as ABWI is currently managed, that is with its own Board, budget, fees etc. It is hoped that the move will nevertheless enable to both streamline and increase services to both AFJA members as well as Australian Beverages Council & ABWI members.



The three associations have many common members and the move brings together all the main non-alcoholic water and juice based beverages' associations.

Rolf Schufft retires after 42 years of employment by the Chamber. In the past he was also at one stage Federal Secretary of the then Australian Council of Soft Drink Manufacturers, the NSW Soft Drink Association (Sydney Division); the NSW Soft Drink Association (Country Division) and the NSW Soft Drink Supply Houses Association.

All members who had dealings with Rolf in his various roles within the beverages industry will want to join us in wishing Rolf a long and enjoyable retirement.

## UNIVERSITY CONSUMPTION RESEARCH WELL RECEIVED AT DAA CONFERENCE

Dr. Gina Levy presented a poster display of the research conducted by her in conjunction with Professor Linda Tapsell at the DAA Conference on the Gold Coast.

The research showed a major shift, equivalent to 330 million cans of soft drink per year, from sugar sweetened to bottled water and low joule drinks.

From an industry point of view it was pleasing that the total market has continued to grow with bottled waters, low joule soft drinks, iced RTD teas, sports drinks and energy drinks all showing strong growth.

Dr Levy reports that the original research was well received with the article print

outs of the research, as published in the December 2007 issue of the Journal of Nutrition & Dietetics quickly disappearing.

**Contact ABCL to receive a copy of the research paper, email [info@australianbeverages.org](mailto:info@australianbeverages.org) or call 02 9662 2844**

## ABWI SURVEYS STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

ABWI's Board through the Communications Committee retained the services of respected public affairs consultant Hawker Britton to gauge the climate on bottled water issues at State and Federal governments' level.

The report whilst in no way advising the industry to do nothing was reassuring on many levels.

**Contact ABWI to receive a copy of the Hawker Britton Report, email [abwi@bottledwater.org.au](mailto:abwi@bottledwater.org.au) or call 02 9662 2844**



# technical update



## BOTTLED WATER

### Fluoride in Bottled Water

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has accepted and released for public comment the joint application by ABWI and the Beverages Council to allow for the voluntary addition of Fluoride (F1) to packaged water. ABWI/ABCL is seeking permission for the voluntary addition of F1 to a maximum claimable amount of 1.5 mg/L in line with drinking water standards. The initial Assessment was released on 19 March 2008 and the deadline for public submissions was 30 April 2008. The final assessment by FSANZ was initially expected by the end of 2008, however, FSANZ has expressed some concern over the 1.5 limit and therefore ABCL may have to consider lowering the proposed maximum claimable limit to 1 mg/L in order for the application to gain approval from FSANZ. The Beverages Council is working closely with FSANZ on the issue.

### ABWI Plans to Amend the FSANZ Code on Packaged Water

The ABWI Technical Standards Committee has undertaken to put in a submission to FSANZ to update and amend the current FSANZ Code on packaged water legislation (Standard 2.6.2,

clause 2). The updated legislation will seek to update maximum levels of certain chemicals in bottled water, such as manganese. The FSANZ Code on packaged water has not been updated since 2001.

There are currently no maximum residue limits set for packaged water, therefore MRL's will be addressed within the application and will take into account the WHO guidelines and the Codex Standard.

### Bisphenol A

ABWI has drafted a Q&A document, to be uploaded onto the ABWI website and reserve position statement in response to the current media interest surrounding the safety of Bisphenol (BPA). Both documents are currently being reviewed by the ABWI Technical Standards Committee for comment and once finalized will be available to all members.

BPA is the subject of continual media interest due to questions concerning its safety, even though the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare have all affirmed the safety of BPA for food contact use.

The most recent media interest concerning the safety of BPA was in response to research from Health Canada and the US

National Toxicology Program. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) recently assessed the scientific literature of BPA to identify any potential health concerns related to reproduction and development. The NTP brief concluded that although there was no 'direct' evidence that exposure to BPA adversely affects reproduction or development, studies with laboratory rodents showed that exposure to 'high dose' levels of BPA during pregnancy can have an effect on the fetus. However, these levels were far in excess of those experienced by humans. The data on BPA is also under review by the Canadian Public Health Authority, Health Canada. Although the report concluded BPA presented 'no cause for concern for adults' in Canada, it did report that this was not the case for new born babies and infants as early development is sensitive to the effects of bisphenol A.

EFSA plans to further assess differences between infants and adults in the elimination of the BPA from the body, taking into account the most recent information and data available. EFSA expects to provide further advice on this by July 2008. EFSA is liaising closely on this issue with the European Commission, Member States as well as with Canadian authorities and with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States.

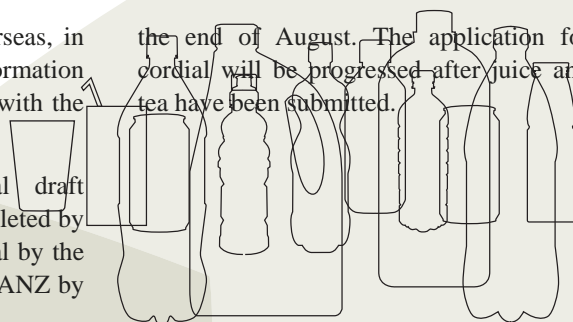
## AMENDING THE FORMULATED BEVERAGES STANDARD

The Australia Beverages Council Ltd (ABCL) plans to put in a submission to Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) to seek permission to fortify ready-to-drink tea, fruit juice (>25% juice) and cordial with the same permitted vitamins and minerals as other formulated beverages. ABCL is currently seeking information on expected and current

market data in Australia and overseas, in addition to other necessary information from members before proceeding with the application.

ABCL expects to have initial draft applications for juice and tea completed by July 2008 in order to gain approval by the Board in August and submit to FSANZ by

the end of August. The application for cordial will be progressed after juice and tea have been submitted.





## FSANZ BENZOATE & SULPHITE REVIEW

FSANZ is currently re-assessing, internally with a possible external review, the Joint (FAO/WHO) Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) level for benzoates and sulphites. As part of its assessment, FSANZ plans to undertake a 'consumption review' – obtaining updated children's' declared consumption (last collected 1995). FSANZ will use this information for its dietary modelling survey to identify if those foods previously identified as being high in sulphites and benzoates (such as dried fruits, sausages, cordials) still play a part in children's consumption. The ADI issue appears to be one for children rather than adolescents and adults.

The ABCL Technical Committee is currently collating usage data on benzoates and sulphites from members in order to submit to FSANZ.

## BENZENE RESIDUES IN BEVERAGES

ABCL is preparing its 2008 report on the incidence of benzene formation in water-based, non-alcoholic beverages to submit to FSANZ. ABCL has requested member bottlers submit information on their sampling and testing protocols to detect levels of benzene in their products in order to establish a common methodology in preparation for the report.

In 2006, ABCL undertook to provide FSANZ with annual reporting on detected levels of benzene in a range of non alcoholic beverages (member and non member products). The report provides details on the status of the industry's attention to this issue, the steps that are being taken by members to minimise any potential risk, and the resulting effects on the possible presence of benzene in beverages.

ABCL submitted its first report in 2007 on the adoption of the 'ICBA Guidance Document' by members, and the resultant effects on the presence of benzene in products offered for sale in Australia. From the results of the 2007 survey, ABCL was confident that the ICBA Guidance Document had been universally adopted by members. FSANZ commended ABCL on its 2007 report.

## ICBWA MEETS IN HONG KONG

The International Council of Bottled Water Associations (ICBWA) met in Hong Kong from 30 April to 2 May 2008. ABWI was represented by Executive Director Tony Gentile, also attending the meetings were Hon. Treasurer Peter Molloy and Board Member Shirley Penson.

In addition to the Board of Director's meeting, ABWI's four committees, Technical, Communications, Environment and Trade Shows also met.

Tony Gentile is joint chair of the Communications Committee together with IBWA Chief Executive Joe Doss.

The most contentious issue discussed was the replacement by ICBWA of both IBWA & EBWF as the bottled water industry's NGO on the Codex Alimentarius Commission. This was resolved when the Board of Directors agreed that any bottled water viewpoint presented at Codex by ICBWA must be the unanimous view of the Council.

## ICBA MEETS IN AUSTRALIA

The International Council of Beverages Associations (ICBA) met in Australia prior to AusDrinks2008.

The Council meeting was well attended with representatives from Europe, USA, Japan, China, the major companies and of course the Australian Beverages Council. ICBA vigorously debated its proposed international guidelines for marketing to

children, which were eventually adopted. Whilst these guidelines were not new to the Australian industry they represented a major departure for the major beverage company members of ICBA as they committed themselves to abide by them throughout the globe regardless of the laxity or non existence of any of local regulations.

## 2008 TECHNICAL SCHOOL

ABCL is pleased to once again be running its Technical School in 2008. The Technical School will be held from the 23rd to the 25th July 2008, at the Mantra Hotel, Parramatta, Sydney, NSW.

The 2008 Technical School has been structured as a comprehensive, basic technical course, with reference to the new technologies available to the industry and the changing regulations. Topics include; additives, carbonation & filling, packaging, hot fill, flavourings, filters, sanitization & cleaning, pest control and much more. A plant tour is also included.

This School is of benefit to those involved in producing and/or bottling non-alcoholic, water based beverages.

It should be noted that this Basic Training Course is designed to assist those wishing to advance their knowledge and not for those with a high level of technical training and/or education.

A program & registration form will be sent to members shortly. ABWI & AFJA members will be able to attend at ABCL members rates.

**Contact ABCL to receive further information, email [info@australianbeverages.org](mailto:info@australianbeverages.org) or call 02 9662 2844**



# CAPITAL ALLOWANCES: EFFECTIVE LIFE REVIEW OF ASSETS USED IN MANUFACTURING SOFT DRINKS, JUICES AND CORDIALS

## Background

The Tax Office is reviewing the Commissioner's effective life determinations for assets used in the manufacture of soft drinks, juices and cordials.

Effective lives are used by taxpayers to work out a deduction for an asset's decline in value (depreciation deduction). The purpose of the review is to ensure the Commissioner's effective life determinations cover all of the assets commonly used today, and reflect current industry practices and expectations. The Commissioner's determinations operate as a 'safe harbour' for taxpayers. The option of self-assessing effective lives is also available.

## Scope of Review

The ATO expects their review of these assets to be completed within 12 months, with new effective life determinations applying from 1 January 2009. Draft effective lives will be issued for public comment well before final decisions are made.

For this review the ATO will need to do three things:

1. Identify the depreciating assets that are widely used.
2. Establish the period of time that each asset can reasonably be expected to be used for a taxable purpose.
3. Recommend to the Commissioner of Taxation that he/she make new effective life determinations for the assets we have identified.

The ATO advises that each review will involve liaising with the Australian Beverages Council, talking to users of these types of assets about their experience in using the assets and their expectations for the future, visiting trade shows, and talking to manufacturers and suppliers of assets.

For more information on the review process, including examples of the type of questions the ATO is likely to ask industry members, read 'Capital allowances: effective life reviews overview'.

For more information on reviews of specific manufacturing industries that

have already been completed, refer to 'Completed effective life reviews'.

## Participating in the Review

Participation in the review process is entirely voluntary. However, the ATO urges strong industry participation thus providing both the industry and ATO with confidence that the ATO has properly considered the range of experience across the industry, and that the determinations will be useful to industry members.

## What to Read/Do Next

Members are urged to refer this matter to the appropriate executive within their company and for those executives to read:

- Overview of effective life and the review process.
- Effective life reviews currently in progress.
- Commissioner's effective life determinations published in Taxation Ruling TR 2007/3.

Visit [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)

## FREE CPO COURSE

ABWI has announced that they will be holding the second of their three free Certified Plant Operator (CPO) Training Course & Examinations for 2008 in Melbourne; This is to assist bottlers that require at least one CPO on staff to meet Audit Certification.

The second CPO Training Course & Examination is being offered to ABWI bottler members FREE OF CHARGE

The CPO Training Course is available to all bottlers needing to achieve certification or CPO's who wish to renew their certification.

If you would like further information please contact Melanie Coupland - [coupland@bottledwater.org.au](mailto:coupland@bottledwater.org.au).

ABWI will notify members of the date and venue of the third and remaining CPO Training sessions in due course.

**When:** 12-13 August 2008  
**Time:** 9.00 AM—5.00 PM  
**Venue:** Cadbury Schweppes Plant,  
Tullamarine, VIC





# industry events

## Queensland Food Safety Conference 2008

18 - 20 June 2008

V: Northgate Brisbane  
E: sofroni@eml.com.au  
W: www.foodindustries.com.au

## Good Food & Wine Show

20 - 22 June 2008

V: Sydney Convention & Expo Centre  
E: goodfood@divexhibitions.com.au  
W: www.goodfoodshow.com.au

## NZIFST Conference 2008 “Sustainable Food”

24 - 26 June 2008

V: Energy Events Centre, Rotorua  
E: rosemary@nzifst.org.nz  
W: www.nzifst.org.nz

## Food Solutions Expo 2008

25 June 2008

V: Werribee Racecourse, VIC  
E: heather@airah.org.au  
W: www.airah.org.au/fse2008/index.html

## Living with Diabetes Expo

5 - 6 July 2008

V: Brisbane Convention & Expo Centre  
E: info@expertiseevents.com.au  
W: www.livingwithdiabetes.com.au

## FoodPro 2008

21 - 24 July 2008

V: Sydney Convention & Expo Centre  
E: peterpetherick@dmgworldmedia.com  
W: www.foodproexh.com

## 41st Annual AIFST Convention

21 - 24 July 2008

V: Sydney Convention & Expo Centre  
E: Julie@foodaust.com.au  
W: www.aifst.asn.au

## 2008 Technical School

ABCL & ABWI

23 - 25 July 2008

V: Mantra Hotel, Parramatta, Sydney  
E: info@australianbeverages.org  
W: www.australianbeverages.org

## 2008 Organic Expo

25-27 July 2008

V: Sydney Convention & Expo Centre  
E: exhibitors@organicexpo.com.au  
W: www.organicexpo.com.au

## 2008 Supply Chain & Logistics Conference

31 July - 1 August 2008

V: Sofitel Hotel, Brisbane  
E: info@qldsc.com  
W: www.qldsc.com

## ABWI CPO Course

12 - 13 August 2008

V: Cadbury Schweppes Plant,  
Tullamarine, VIC  
E: abwi@bottledwater.org.au  
W: www.bottledwater.org.au

## Retail Expo Australasia

12 - 14 August 2008

V: Sydney Convention & Expo Centre  
E: retail@divexhibitions.com.au  
W: www.retailexpo.com.au

## WA Safety Show

12 - 14 August 2008

V: Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre  
E: safety@aec.net.au  
W: www.wasafetyshow.com

## ABWI Technical Forum

14 - 15 August 2008

V: TBC  
E: abwi@bottledwater.org.au  
W: www.bottledwater.org.au

## ABWI Board Meeting

15 August 2008

V: TBC  
E: abwi@bottledwater.org.au  
W: www.bottledwater.org.au

## ABCL AGM & Board Meeting

25 August 2008

V: Sydney  
E: info@australianbeverages.org  
W: www.australianbeverages.org

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