

0% Plastic: Can We Do It?

In the first part of this thought piece, we discussed the state of New Zealand's plastic addiction and the scope of the opportunity for the country to become a world leader in waste reduction. Fortunately, there are already a number of companies in New Zealand that are engendering a change in the way we consume and dispose of rubbish in this country. In recent years, this movement has been captured by the term 'circular economy', whereby the traditional 'raw-material to consumer' supply chain is replaced by a feedback loop of 'raw-material to consumer to raw-material'.



Armillary Clients

For some time, we have been working alongside a number of businesses that have engaged in the circular economy. Some examples of clients that we have worked with previously are listed below:

Earthcare

<https://www.earthcare.co.nz/>

Earthcare Environmental is a full-service recycling and refuse company that provides a total outsource for a council waste operation with specialist skills in handling green waste, food waste and household refuse. Its aim is to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in New Zealand's landfills by identifying what is able to be recycled from the refuse stream and finding the best way to deal with it economically and responsibly. Armillary has been engaged with Earthcare on a number of projects including debt raising and a capital options review.

A.E. Tilley

<http://www.aetilley.co.nz/>

A.E. Tilley Ltd provides a comprehensive design and manufacturing service throughout New Zealand and in Australia, specialising in sheet metal products and components. In partnership with the Queenstown and Wellington Councils, A.E. Tilley has developed green waste, garbage, and recycling bins which alert the council once the bins are full – reducing the amount of spillover garbage and increasing collection efficiency on behalf of the council. Armillary has worked with A.E. Tilley in establishing an advisory board, investigating potential transactions and providing VCFO services.

Visual Group

<http://www.visual.co.nz/>

Visual Group is one of New Zealand's largest technology support providers which focuses exclusively on technology - hardware, software, networks and installation. The company operates throughout Australia and New Zealand at service centres, on-site, and by remote monitoring. Visual Group has embraced the 'circular economy' by targeting the 'reverse logistics optimisation' (RLO) opportunity and providing return for repair and disposal services for computer equipment. Armillary is working with Visual Group to secure additional capital for growth, and with corporate advisory services.

Company Spotlight

Beyond these companies, there are several operating in our wider business network whose efforts to date should be highlighted:

Ethique

<https://ethiquebeauty.co.nz/>

Combating the shampoo, deodorant, soap and laundry bottles we throw away each year is Christchurch based Ethique. By creating solid shampoo, deodorant, soap and moisturiser bars, Ethique has circumnavigated the need for plastic containers. The solid bars are kept in eco-friendly containers which are fit for in shower storage. Aside from the fact that the overall product is environmentally friendly, these are high quality products, smell great, easy & practical to use. To date it has prevented over 500,000 plastic bottles ending up in landfills.

Innocent

<https://innocentpackaging.co.nz/>

Innocent Packaging makes packaging from plants. From coffee cups and lids, to cutlery and noodle boxes, all of its products are compostable. It is focused on leading the way to inspire change and provide the most sustainable packaging on the market at affordable prices - helping New Zealand's leading coffee roasters, cafes, food trucks and businesses become the most sustainable in the world. Innocent has recently teamed up with We Compost by supplying

100 cafes across the Auckland CBD with a compost collection bin and a regular collection, the first city-wide compost collection of its kind in NZ.

Innocent is happy to provide expertise on everything from the best sustainable packaging options for a business to waste stream options available in the area.

Plastoil

<http://www.plastoil.co.nz/>

Plastoil has innovated a thermal depolymerisation technology which turns the 30% of plastic that is non-recyclable into a hydrocarbon eco-fuel that is compatible with diesel engines. With remarkable efficiency, the Plastoil plant can produce 1 litre of eco-fuel from 1kg of rubbish using only 1KwH of electricity. The technology produces a minimal amount of residual waste, i.e. only 1-3% when using the recommended feedstock. This residual waste is harmless and can be used in other applications. Plastoil is currently arranging funding for a plant where unrecyclable plastics will be broken down into their original form through depolymerization - offering an alternative to landfilling or incineration.

The result of this project is the potential for commercial vehicles in New Zealand to operate using fuel produced from New Zealand's unrecyclable plastics.

Making Change

At Armillary Private Capital our purpose is enabling success for businesses, business owners and investors. We work with our clients to improve their businesses, drive value creation and develop future growth opportunities.

We firmly believe that moving towards a more sustainable economy is essential to the future prosperity of New Zealand, and is good business that will ultimately improve the profitability of businesses and future proof their strategy.

To this end, we will reduce our standard rates by 25% on services for any prospective client working in the sustainability or circular economy sectors.

If you are interested in how Armillary could help your business, please get in contact with us.

www.armillary.co.nz