

MetPac-SA CEO gains first Certified Packaging Professional status in SA

CEO of MetPac-SA, Kishan Singh, has become the first packaging expert in South Africa to be awarded the designation 'Certified Packaging Professional' (CPP) by the international Institute of Packaging Professionals. Singh is also a global ambassador of the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) and national education officer of the Institute of Packaging SA (IPSA).



Kishan Singh

IoPP has been awarding CPP designation to packaging since 1972. To date, however, there are fewer than 2,500 individuals worldwide who have achieved this coveted CPP status which requires proof of years of experience, an in-depth packaging knowledge, as well as commitment to the global packaging industry. The CPP programme is now also endorsed by WPO and IPSA.

Singh is now permitted to use the suffix 'CPP' after his name on business cards and letterheads, to wear the IoPP/CPP lapel pin, and to display the CPP Certificate.

Explains Kishan: "The CPP designation has become the leading mark of excellence internationally and a must-have recognition of industry proficiency and achievement for packaging professionals. I am very pleased about attaining the CPP designation, as it is a commitment to excellence in the global packaging profession as well as an important investment in my professional development."

Ensuring a level playing field

The CPP designation is based on current skills and expertise, and candidates are required to be re-certificated every 3 years as part of a continuous professional development system. The CPP programme ensures that candidates are regularly keeping abreast of current packaging trends, innovations and knowledge and the program ensures that packaging professionals are the same, globally level, playing field.

Singh was required to thoroughly demonstrate technical industry expertise and experience, as well as significant contribution towards education within the global packaging industry. Furthermore, candidates are expected to demonstrate either their command of applied packaging technology by successfully completing a narrative exam or submitting a detailed resume of activities in which they document their past six years of experience and active participation in local and global packaging and/or related disciplines.

They also have to complete a 150 question test on packaging supply chain principles, packaging graphics, packaging manufacturing techniques, packaging machinery, materials and technology, of which a minimum of 80% correct score is considered passing.

Promoting the qualification locally

"South Africans wishing to pursue this international academic qualification will need to contact the Institute of Packaging SA (IPSA) who are now the agents for the WPO endorsed CPP programme managed through the IOPP. I encourage all those that seek to make packaging their profession, and who wish to be recognised in a vibrant and ever-changing industry to seek this internationally accepted packaging designation," Singh concludes.

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