

# SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT CHARTER NEWSLETTER



## 可持續採購約章 通訊



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Issue 5

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### INTRODUCTION

At the time of writing this issue, there are luckily, little to no new COVID daily cases in Hong Kong. However, the pandemic is still not over, and cases and new variants continues to rise across the globe. We wish everyone continue to have great health!

In this issue, besides providing updates regarding the Charter, we will share with you the latest news on procurement and our upcoming award on sustainable procurement. Please enjoy this issue!

### SPC UPDATES

#### NEW SPC MEMBERS

Green Council is pleased to introduce new members joining the Charter that joined since the last issue, including Hongkong Land, Octopus Card, and Opal Cosmetics. Welcome! We were able to reach out to the representatives for a brief introduction. Those who were unable to provide the introduction in time will be featured in future issues! We hope to see you all face-to-face soon!

#### Octopus Cards Limited

Launched in 1997 by OCL, the Octopus system in Hong Kong is one of the world's leading and most extensively accepted contactless smartcard payment systems. Its aspiration is to bring diversity and inclusion in payment to customers of all facets of life.

Today, more than 36 million Octopus Cards and products are in circulation; spanning businesses including public transport, parking, retail, self-help services, schools and leisure facilities, and access control for residential and commercial buildings. There are over 100,000 Octopus acceptance points in the market. Octopus' application has been extended to online and mobile payment arenas with services including Octopus on iPhone and Apple Watch, Octopus on Samsung Pay, Octopus on Huawei Pay, Octopus App, Octopus Wallet and Octopus Mastercard®, bringing new payment experiences to customers.

The Octopus Group exports its unique experience and technology overseas, offering consultancy services across the world. The mission of OCL is simple: Making everyday life easier by using innovative payment technology.

At OCL, we are committed to driving sustainable procurement. We actively collaborate with suppliers, ensuring related practices fully embedded across the value chain. By incorporating social, environmental and ethical dimensions into procurement, we can discharge our corporate social responsibility effectively.



**Representative:** Elza Chan, Senior Manager, Finance

Elza specialises in procurement management and transformation with over 10 years' experience in the banking and fintech industries. She oversees the procurement policies and operations at OCL. With the growth in public awareness, she believes that sustainability will become a key success factor and procurement will play an important role in it.



**Representative:** Mr. Jonathan He - Marketing and Business Development Manager

Jonathan joined Opal in 2020 with supply chain management and compliance background. M.Sc. in the field of Corporate Environmental Governance from the University of Hong Kong, and the member of HKSCC. He is supporting and driving corporate sustainability initiatives across the Group, coordinating with internal and external parties for developing ESG reports and to raise the Group's sustainability profile globally. Promoting sustainability performance to stakeholders through reporting, benchmarking and regular engagement.



## Opal Cosmetics (Hong Kong) Limited

Opal is a well-established manufacturer and Hong Kong beauty & personal care brand for more than 25+years. During these years, we believe a small step can mean a lot as long as you are willing to move forward. A vision of equitable, inclusive, and sustainable have the power to make a positive impact and support the idea of sustainability.

The concept of 'Profit with Purpose' which's assuring the balance trade-off between pro-social/environmental incentives, financial return and managerial quality will be the next challenge and opportunities the majority of corporation in Hong Kong, we look forward to engage and drive the change necessary with Green Council and all SPC members.

## ALL SPC MEMBERS MEETING

An All-member meeting was held on May 5<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. In this meeting, we have invited a few of our members to report the summary of SPC Objectives, while providing the latest results of the benchmarking survey. Quick wins 2021 was also introduced that will pave the way forward for quick tangible benefits / "wins" for members to head towards sustainable procurement.



## ISO 20400 WORKSHOP (H1 2021)

Two ISO 20400 workshops were conducted on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 17<sup>th</sup>. Because of the ease of social distancing restrictions, we were fortunate to host the workshop with a face-to-face format (with limited seating capacity). We hope our next session (to be held in Q4 of 2021) will also be conducted in such format. Stay tuned!

## SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT AWARD

Hong Kong Green Award 2021 has started enrolling! On top of our existing awards *Green Management Award (GMA)*, *Environmental, Health and Safety Award (EHSA)*, *Corporate Green Governance Award (CGGA)*, the *Green Purchase-wise Award* was updated and replaced by – **Sustainable Procurement Award!**

The **Sustainable Procurement Award (SPA)** aims to encourage organizations to adopt sustainable procurement, and presenting them with an opportunity to benchmark their commitment towards sustainable procurement excellence.

There will be SIX awards under the SPA to recognize different achievements of procurement strategies including:

1. Procurement Governance
2. Supply Chain Risk Management
3. Social and Environmental
4. Supplier Engagement
5. Continual Improvement
6. Grand Award (only one)



Green Council sincerely invites all members of SPC to participate in this new award to showcase your efforts and achievements of your organizations in pursuing sustainable procurement.

If you are interested, please visit <https://www.hkga.net/> or you may contact Ms Wing Li for further enquiry at 2810-1122 or [wingli@greencouncil.org](mailto:wingli@greencouncil.org). The **deadline** for register and submission of the assessment is **September 3rd, 2021 (Friday)**.

## PROCUREMENT NEWS

### How sustainable cashmere is reversing land degradation in Mongolia



The United Nations has posted an example on how sustainable procurement can help mitigate climate change. In this story, GOBI Cashmere, a well-known cashmere garment company, has been sourcing cashmere in Mongolia produced in a sustainable method, including proper animal husbandry methods, maintaining water supply and pasture conditions, buying directly from herders and provides training to ensure quality standards can be met etc. (Addressing environmental, social and economic issues.)

These methods have helped mitigate land degradation in Mongolia, and improvement the local community as a whole. Perhaps just as important, GOBI is also very transparent with its procurement practice, which can be traced. Overall, this is a great example on how procurement can be done in a sustainable way. It is a good best-practice study.

**Full story here:** <https://www.undp.org/blogs/how-sustainable-cashmere-reversing-land-degradation-mongolia>

### Public consultation on Scheme on Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware



The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) on July 9 released a consultation paper on the Scheme on Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware. The Scheme aims to reduce the use of disposable plastic tableware at source. The two-month public consultation will end on September 8, 2021.

The Scheme has proposed to ban the local sale and provision (including catering premises) of disposable expanded polystyrene (EPS) tableware and also to prohibit the provision of disposable plastic tableware (including oxo- & bio-degradable) for dine-in and takeaway services in two phases. Details can be found here [www.rdpt.hk](http://www.rdpt.hk)

Procurement should explore those non-plastic disposable tableware alternatives, e.g. paper, bamboo, soft wood, etc., available in the market to prepare the change.

## UPCOMING SEMINAR

### Establish greenhouse gas reduction targets: Science-based approach



Man-made greenhouse gas emissions have continually created many unpredictable and unmanageable impacts on the change of climate. In this year, we had drought and water-rationing in Taiwan and Guangdong, extreme flooding in Mainland, both record low and high temperature in North America. Many governments, including China and Hong Kong, have committed and set carbon neutral targets. That's why hundreds of businesses – including some of our members – are setting science-based targets (SBTs), which aim to prevent the catastrophic damage that global warming could cause.

SBTs ensure a company's emissions are in line with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, committed to prevent the worst effects of catastrophic climate change by limiting average global temperature to 1.5 degree Celsius above pre-industrial

level. SBTs are powerful way for your company to boost its competitive advantage in the transition to a low-carbon economy and to add transparency and external credibility to internal sustainability goals.

Green Council will conduct an online training course on “Establish greenhouse gas reduction targets: Science-based approach”. The course will also cover the emissions from your suppliers which are always the greatest portion of your total emissions. Please do not miss this opportunity to attend, please register.

**Registration Link:**

**Session 1:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0rMTVZ0JRSGPAYBbaju-5A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0rMTVZ0JRSGPAYBbaju-5A)

**Session 2:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ZZVZTE5aQ5uARS\\_1hWNN8A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZZVZTE5aQ5uARS_1hWNN8A)

\*\*Certificate of Attendance will be issued to participants who attended all the 2 session and complete a feedback survey.

If you have any enquiry, please feel free to contact our Ms Ella Ho at 2810-1122.

## HOW TO JOIN THE CHARTER

If you are interested in joining the Sustainable Procurement Charter, please contact Green Council at:

**Tel:** +852 2810-1122 or

**Email:** [info@greencouncil.org](mailto:info@greencouncil.org)

You can also obtain more detailed information at

<https://www.greencouncil.org/spc>



One planet procure with care