

North America:

Digital and Green Transformation

Challenges and Opportunities

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THE FIBRE BOX ASSOCIATION (FBA), Itasca Illinois

FBA is a trade association representing North American corrugated box manufacturers.

members

representing 95%

of U.S. box

shipments .

1940 Founding year

Quarterly Statistics, Benchmarking Publications, Annual Meeting, Promotion, Handbook, Research, Advocacy, Issue Management

> Integrated companies Independent companies Box and Sheet Plants

Committees Cybersecurity

Data Servies Environmental Marketing & Communications Safety & Health Sustainability Technical

> The Voice of the NA Corrugated Industry



Green Transformation -Challenges

Supply Chain Perception - reuse is better than recycling:

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Hierarchy of Waste Management
- Strong marketing effort by the plastic industry (RPCs)
- 64% of consumers favor reuse over recycling



Green Transformation -Opportunities

- Most recent Life Cycle Assessment
 - -4^{th} Update since 2006 Baseline
 - -Tracked progress across indicators
 - -50% per unit reduction in GHG emissions
- Comparative LCA Corrugated and RPCs
- Voluntary Repulpability Standard and Design for Recycling Guidelines (replace wax boxes)





Green Transformation -Opportunities Cont.

- Residential Recovery of OCC (ROCCR) Work Group
- Corrugated Industry Promotional Program (
- Close working relationship with AF&PA
- Consumer based initiatives





Digital Transformation -Challenges

- Changing corrugated requirements due to automated warehouses and distribution centers
- Changing communication patterns with customers
- Finding qualified employees



Digital Transformation-Opportunities

- Expansion of production capabilities
- New level of customer/supplier relationship
- Use of Generative AI to transform our industry





"Generative AI might not take your job but the person that understands it will"

- Sam Richter, Generative AI author and speaker



Generative AI Tool - ChatGPT

- Generative create something new
- Pre Training data set training needed before it can do anything
- Transformer technology that transforms words into numbers allowing for meaning and context of words to be understood



Generative AI Examples

- Sales- identifying customer decision makers and providing personality profiles
- Marketing customizing video presentation by customer/opportunity
- Logistics identifying best location for new plants, warehouse and sales offices
- Design increasing options for customer solutions
- Customer Service -integrating order entry with customer data



Conclusions

The North American Corrugated Industry is embracing the Green and Digital Transformation.

It is the path to the future!







Thank you!