You should now hear us through your computer’s speakers. If you would rather dial in using your phone line, please call in using the numbers shown to the right.
Your speakers today:

Kara Pochiro
• APR Communications and Organizational Coordinator

Steve Alexander
• APR President/ CEO

Mike Cappelli
• Caps and Closures Marketing Manager at NOVA Chemicals
• Closure & Container Manufacturers Association (CCMA) Board Member

Jonathan Levy
• Director of Member Services at Institute of Scrap Recycling (ISRI)

Dave Cornell
• APR Technical Director

The Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers
The voice of plastics recycling
Plastic Caps & Recyclability

- Improved recycling collection, processing technology, and higher demand for the material allows caps to be recycled.
Why Start Accepting Caps?

- When recycling gets easier, participation goes up!
- Cap material is recyclable.
Recycled Caps & Marketability

- Caps are made of high density polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP).
- HDPE and PP have high demand
How Does it Work?

- Empty Bottle
- Crush, Replace Cap
- Recycle
Additional Sorting and Labor Issues

- No need for additional sorting or labor.
- Bottles and caps materials are automatically separated during the water bath float/sink process.
Different Plastics Materials & Recycling Issues

- Majority of plastic bottled materials can be collected together.
- The grinding and washing process allows for caps and bottles’ materials to be separated so materials can be recycled independently of the other.
Caps-on Containers Bales & Marketability

- Bottle bales are marketed at the same rate as bales without caps.
- APR’s model bale specification does not downgrade for the inclusion of caps.
Bales & Compaction Rates

• Good bale density is important to improve shipping efficiency and costs.
• It varies by the type of baler, but generally 100-120psi of pressure allow most balers to compress plastic bottles with caps on.
Perforator Machine & Better Rates

• Generally not required.
• Most MRFs do not operate a perforation machine to puncture bottles before baling. Heavy duty horizontal balers have enough pressure.
Product Design & Recyclability

- Well-designed packaging that has potential to be reused and remanufactured into new products.
- Guidelines available at: http://www.plasticsrecycling.org/technical-resources/design-for-recyclability-guidelines
Metal Caps Issue

- Steel and aluminum caps can be problematic for plastic reclaimers.
- Metal caps can damage machinery, slow down production, and are too contaminated to recycle.
Tubs & Lids

• New target for municipal recycling.
• Recycling tubs and lids are currently in the learning process. For more details visit: http://www.plasticsrecycling.org/rigids-plastics
When MRF Does Not Accept Caps

• Alert MRF that APR has announced a call for caps and closures to remain on containers.
• Direct MRF officials to http://www.plasticsrecycling.org/
When A Community Does Not Accept Caps

- Equipment and policies at the local level will take time to adapt.
- Direct community officials to http://www.plasticsrecycling.org/

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I’m Interested. Now What?

• Discuss with hauler and MRF
• Any further questions, visit the APR website and then contact APR at:
  – kara@plasticsrecycling.org
  – salexander@cmrgroup4.com
Questions?

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Thank you

Additional questions can be sent to: kara@plasticsrecycling.org