A Brief History of FPI

January 27, 1933: Three companies – Lily-Tulip Cup Corporation, Individual Drinking Cup Company and United States Envelope Company – gather in New York City to form the Cup and Container Institute.

August 30, 1933: The Cup and Container Institute is incorporated in New York City, with seven members.

1938: “Paper” is added to the Institute’s name, and the Paper Cup and Container Institute (PCCI) is born.

1943: Twelve companies make up the PCCI.

1948: PCCI absorbs the struggling Paper Plate Association.


1967: The larger association renames itself the Plate, Cup and Container Institute, using its old moniker, PCCI.

1970: PCCI members vote to open PCCI membership to plastic and foil packaging manufacturers.

1971: Economic conditions force the association to reorganize and, as part of that reorganization, PCCI acquires the Food Tray and Board Association. Along with the reorganization comes another name change to the Single Service Institute (SSI).

1975: The Egg Packaging Association merges with, and becomes a division of, SSI.

1978: SSI moves its offices from New York City to Washington, DC to better combat growing legislative threats.
1987: SSI, after a long study of its position in an increasingly crowded field of single material associations, announces a change in its nomenclature to the Foodservice & Packaging Institute (FPI). The new name signals the members’ intent to place FPI in a leadership position in the raging public policy debate over packaging in the environment. Along with this positioning comes members’ decision to adopt a “material neutral” approach to public policy discussions. FPI would be the voice of ALL single-use foodservice products.

2007: FPI removes the ampersand (“&”) from its name, since many do it for us!

2018: FPI has 70 converter and supplier members and represents approximately 90 percent of the North American market.