Reducing waste costs and protecting the environment

Almost every business produces waste of some kind and for many the cost of handling and disposing of this waste is significant when compared with other business costs. Apart from the costs, however, is the impact that waste has on the environment if it is not disposed of in the proper manner.

In fact waste has become such a major issue that in December 2009 a National Waste Management Policy was endorsed by all State and Territory Environment ministers. In NSW reducing the generation of waste and turning it into recoverable resources are a priority and programs exist under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy.

Key legislation and regulations contain the requirements for managing, storing, transporting, processing, recovering and disposing of waste.

For business managing waste, much of which is generated from packaging, has become a labour cost, a space cost, an OH&S issue and in many cases a health issue.

Regardless of the size of a business – from small to large – an effective solution to the waste problem has to be found and the answer is to use waste compactors.

Mil-tek is the world's largest manufacturer of waste compactors and through their broad range of partners in the recycling industry they offer total solutions for waste management which includes generating revenue from recyclable materials.

Mil-tek offers a large and versatile range of compactors. The Mil-tek compactor is suitable for the small corner store, the medium size distribution centre and the large manufacturing plant, in fact they cater for any sized business with any volume of waste.

Mil-tek compactors provide a high degree of compaction, are safe and easy to use and are cheap to operate.

Whether it be cardboard, which accounts for more than 50% of the waste stream across many business sectors, or plastic, or wet or dry kitchen waste, Mil-tek compactors can reduce waste costs by up to 80% and help protect the environment.

Mil-tek's compactors can reduce the volume of plastic to less than 1% of its original size.

Mil-tek makes a range of compactors to suit any business from a convenience store to hotels, supermarkets to whole-salers and manufacturers and eliminate the need to hire skips or bins. Jesper Hjortkjaer, Managing Director of Mil-tek Waste Solutions says, "Instead of paying to have waste taken away a new option opens up where recyclers will pick up the waste at no charge and in some cases will buy it. Controlling waste costs, like any other cost, is sound business practice. Compacted waste achieves this."

Mil-tek Waste Solutions are based at Unit 8, 1 Reliance Drive, Tuggerah Business Park.

Eris McCarthy helps GBD come to their sensors

In a thoroughly clean, green move, Eris McCarthy recently refitted Graphic By Design's Platinum Building office with exciting new lighting and sensors that have already cut the agency's power bill by thirty per cent.

All fluoro lights were swapped for energy efficient T5 tubes ideal for the detailed work carried out by designers.

Ingenious sensors were fitted to work

areas so that lights turn off automatically if the area is unoccupied or natural window light sufficient. And just for good measure, all meeting and board room lighting was given a brilliant new look in a layout designed by Zumtobel.

Agency CEO Jeff McGarn said "It's nice to be doing something for 'out there' and 'in here's' not doing too bad out of it either!"



Think Smart, Think Future, Think Energy Efficiency

DNA Energy Solutions are constantly working with NSW businesses on energy saving initiatives to help them become either cost effective or environmentally responsible or even both. What they find is that most businesses are looking for that silver bullet in producing both outcomes with a minimum outlay of capital

There are some companies providing programs out there, such as down light replacement, that utilise the NSW government certificate scheme to provide a solution with no capital outlay, and lighting is an obvious choice when it comes to energy savings.

Utilising such schemes can be a good short term solution but the question that needs to be asked is will it serve the purpose over the business long term and is it part of the overall plan. There are some horrible examples of short term thinking that happened during the NSW solar PV scheme and now with LED lighting companies offering replacement lamps for next to nothing.

As an electrical service and engineering company, DNA Energy Solutions see firsthand what short term solutions do to the long term impact on the company image, maintenance programs and break down costs.

It can be a bit of a mine field for businesses to know what the right solution really is and it does depend on the type of business and hours of operation.

DNA believe the two main questions to ask as a business are:

- 1. What will be the impact to the business of doing nothing at all? and
- 2. What are the most suitable energy saving solutions that provide the most suitable returns for the least amount of impact to the business over an agreed time period?

The solution can be as simple as energy efficient lamps, resetting timers, motion sensors or it could be as sophisticated as voltage optimisation devices, energy monitoring or renewable/regeneration systems.

Each solution plays a part in the overall plan to becoming efficient in energy

The best result of being energy smart, looking to long term benefits and constantly looking at ways to be energy efficient is that businesses become environmentally responsible.

As an example of cost savings a Tuggerah electrical manufacturing company will save up to \$10,000 a year in power and maintenance costs after installing a special energy-saving device on its warehouse lights.

Belkin, a multi-national corporation that manufactures electrical products, introduced the voltage optimisation units in its Tuggerah logistics warehouse thanks to the help of Central Coast energy efficiency specialists DNA Energy Solutions. Chief executive officer of DNA Electrical David Mears said, the special devices are very successful in Europe with some 7,000 systems in

use on projects ranging from small car parks to entire airports. "These units can save almost 30% of the energy being consumed by lighting and 25% of the energy being consumed by air conditioning, refrigeration and commercial kitchen equipment."

Now, with installations in shopping centres, warehouses and car parks in Australia, other businesses here can take advantage of this new technology and save on future energy consumption.

Protection against rising energy costs

Businesses are under more pressure each year to deliver results while maintaining the normal comforts and services to clients, investing in energy efficiency has become paramount to staying in business for the long term.

Any good business with a plan for the future needs to be looking at ways to protect themselves against these increasing energy costs.

"We have worked with some large organisations across the Central Coast and NSW and currently have our systems involved in some exciting trials that we hope will expand nationally and with electricity prices on the rise, installing this technology is a smart investment for any company," Mr Mears said.

To learn more about how your business can become energy efficient, call DNA Energy Solutions on 1300 622 332 or visit their website at www.dnaelectrical.com.au.



Energy efficient lighting — the green solution

Thankfully during this challenging period of healthy debate on climate change there has emerged a clear interest and subsequent benefit in green renovations. In July 2009 the NSW Government amended the Electricity Act (1995) encouraging the advent of new energy savings opportunities; to give birth to a greener, more sustainable and cost effective business community. Now more than ever showing a responsible attitude towards energy refining solutions actually has a return on investment.

The aim of the Energy Savings Scheme of 2009 was to increase the uptake of resourceful, approved energy efficient technologies by creating a healthy financial incentive that would encourage businesses to actively seek to reduce their consumption of electricity.

B-efficient (a division of Urban Group Energy) focus on providing its commercial clients with a green solution comprising of energy efficient lighting –retrofitting poor quality lighting that has a disregard for the future with an option that consists of a positive outcome for the environment and that of your business' bottom line.

Engaging with **B-efficient** has delivered the majority of its clients a minimum saving of 50% off the lighting component of their electricity bill. In an era where companies are attempting to focus on their core business with a limited infrastructure, these savings contribute positively to the P & L offering savings that don't restrict the cash flow to small and medium enterprises. This ensures their commitment to environmental protection as well. There are few limits to what is available in the world of green building retrofits and when it comes to lighting it doesn't have to cost the Earth.

B-efficient offer site surveys to all business types. A simple overview and assessment of your current energy situation is compared to the prospective energy saving solutions you may be eligible for. Andrew Percival, Sales Manager of B-efficient said, "Delivering a return on investment to our clients is our responsibility. Retrofitting and installing energy efficient lighting solutions

is our business - every day. Our clients trust us to ensure that their footprint is coloured green. They consist of Aged Care facilities, Retail, Parking stations through to Hospitals, CBD buildings and family owned success stories. Companies from all industries public and private have approached us for assistance on how they may save money on their energy bills and contribute to a climate that will continue to outlast us all."

There are various products available including T8/T5 retrofits, LED's, Shopfitters, Spotlights and High Bay lighting lamps.

Retrofitting for Green buildings need not be complicated nor a burden on those willing to invest in strengthening our environmental future. Investing in B-efficient lighting solutions has proven to deliver a positive return on investment.

To see if you are eligible for green financial savings it is possible for an obligation free energy efficient assessment to be arranged by making contact with **B-efficient**. You will find their website via www.b-efficient.com.au.

efficient

energy efficient lighting

"Add value to your business and your clients' business with Energy Efficient Lighting..."



ECO-SAVER T8/T5 REPLACEMENT

In many businesses, lighting makes up a large part of electricity expenses. In addition, it contributes significantly to their carbon footprint.

Are you aware that there are some inexpensive and

The Eco-Saver T5 adaptor replaces T8 lights that are commonly used in offices and other commercial buildings.

LED 9W MR16

Our LED Downlights are carefully designed by an Australian manufacturer to maximise the light output with a minimum of energy input, with close attention to dissipating the heat from the high performance LED



p: 1300 233 533 f: (02) 8008 1506 | Suite 2.02 Platinum Building, 4 Ilya Avenue Erina NSW 2250 info@befficient.com.au | www.befficient.com.au