



PARTICIPATION IN SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

Sustainability Advantage Program

SWSi is the member of NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's 'Sustainability Advantage Program' since September 2010.

The Institute participated in program's 'Vision Commitment and Planning' and 'Resource Efficiency' modules.

Vision Commitment and Planning module enabled Institute to develop a sustainability vision, set long-term goals and ability to use these goals to identify appropriate actions and targets to be put in place.

Resource Efficiency module helped Institute to implement energy saving and waste minimisation initiatives, in order to reduce its carbon footprint.

SWSi is undertaking Staff Engagement module to develop an environmentally aware and responsive workforce and to support and acknowledge sustainability champions within the Institute.

Every Drop Counts Program

The Institute is a member of Sydney Water's Every Drop Counts program for a number of years. The aim of this program is to reduce water consumption and consequently the cost.



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**Sustainability
at SWSi**

PRACTICES & PROGRAMS

Sustainable Campus Group

SWSi was a member of the Sustainable Campus Group (SCG) coordinated by Monash University in 2010. The purpose of this participation was to monitor benchmark and report on Institute's sustainability performance across the vocational and tertiary education sector.

Climate Change, Employment and Local Development Project

SWSi participated in Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)'s Sydney project, 'Climate Change, Employment and Local Development' to improve the understanding of the employment and skills impacts of greenhouse mitigation and adaptation measures and strengthen the partnerships between government, industry and community to maximise employment and skills opportunities associated with climate change policy.



ELECTRICITY AND WATER USAGE ABATEMENT PRACTICES

Electricity usage abatement practices

- Progressive upgrading of lighting to Electronics T5 Standards
- Installation of timers on lighting and electrical appliances in general purpose class rooms
- Scripted shutdown on computers at 10pm
- "Switch off" campaign to promote energy saving practices
- Installation of solar panels
- Welding equipment, air conditioning, microscopes switched off after use
- Use of solar panels to recharge batteries
- Kiln's fired only when filled to capacity
- Solar hot water heating

Water usage abatement practices

- Rain water harvesting and its use in toilets
- Installation of water saving devices (flow restrictors in all taps)
- Installation of dual flush toilets
- Movement sensor flushing for urinals
- Use of harvested rain water for gardening beds
- Use of native plants and plants with low water requirements
- Use of drip irrigation method in gardens

RECYCLING AND WASTE MINIMISATION PRACTICES

Recycling and waste minimisation practices

- Reuse of office stationery (folders, sheet protectors etc)
- Use of compost green waste in horticulture and floristry
- Waste from animal care turned to compost
- Flattening and cutting of metal sheets into sizes which can be reused by students
- Delivering two units using same materials (a welding/fabrication competency in conjunction with a cutting module - students do get credit for the extra subject/s)
- Minimise wastes of chemicals used during practical sessions (dilutions etc)
- Double sided printing
- Use of 100% recycled printing paper
- Recycle used printer cartridges, paper, metal waste, computer hardware, cardboard

Use of low environment impact/eco friendly products

- Water based paints, inks and eco-friendly whiteboard markers
- 100% recycled printing paper
- Herbal products in hair dressing