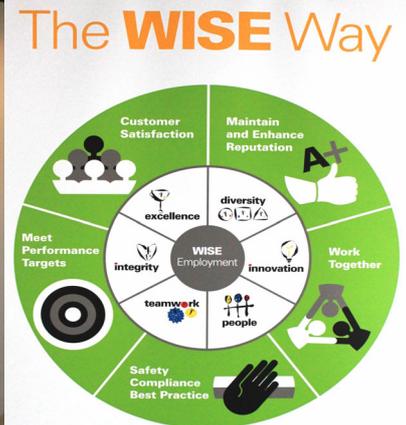


Case Study WISE Employment – Sustainability: More than energy efficiency



Power to the people

WISE Employment is a non-profit organisation empowering jobseekers to find meaningful work and employers to find the right staff.

WISE works with disadvantaged members of the community, who are the very people who are most vulnerable to the impacts of environmental degradation, severe weather events, and increasing costs. As an organisation dedicated to serving the community, WISE is committed to reducing its impact on the environment.

WISE joined CitySwitch in 2011, having previously commissioned an energy audit on its premises and improved energy efficiency with an office upgrade.

- Installation of motion sensors on all lights
- Purchase of new, energy efficient office equipment
- Compiled greenhouse gas inventory for scope 1, 2 and partially scope 3

Goals

- **To achieve accredited carbon neutral status under NCOS**
- **To include all Victorian offices in CitySwitch**
- **To include sustainability in procurement decision making**

WISE recognise the importance of engaging staff in the environmental management of its multiple tenancies

Each WISE office has a Green Champion whose role is to monitor energy consumption and behaviour; ensuring staff maintain levels of efficiency through switching off their computers.

“The Green Champion role is exciting because I want to make changes to help WISE cut down the use of electricity. This role gives me an opportunity to put my ideas forward and make changes to our office for a more sustainable future”

Alicia Edwins - WISE Green Champion



Signatory status	
Date joined CitySwitch	28 June 2011
Tenancy size	2695 m ²
NABERS Commitment rating	★★★★
Website	www.wiseemployment.com.au
Key outcomes	
NABERS Rating Achieved	★★★★★
GreenPower	100%
Green CO2 savings per annum	196 tonnes
Technology	T5 fluorescent lighting upgrade, Ceiling insulation, motion sensor lighting

Holistic approach to managing impacts

Waste

WISE currently separates co-mingled recycling in all of its offices and recycles e-waste.

The procurement practices of WISE are being reviewed to consider where more environmentally responsible products and services can be used to reduce waste.

WISE is currently considering the inclusion of waste in its greenhouse gas inventory.

Energy

- Lighting hardware and control system upgrade
- Insulation installed throughout head office
- Energy saving timers installed on office equipment and appliances to ensure switch-off
- Purchase of 100% GreenPower
- Offsets purchased to account for emissions associated with travel and fleet vehicles

Behaviour change

Stickers and signs have been put on all computers to encourage staff to switch them off.

WISE is currently running a competition between sites to reduce energy consumption. A prize will be awarded to the site which reduces its energy consumption the most over a six month period.

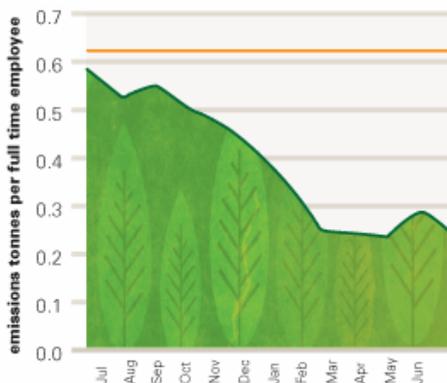
Advocacy

WISE encourages its jobseekers to seek environmental volunteering or training with conservation groups and local councils as part of their job search activities.

“Helping minimise the effects of climate change will assist in reducing its impact on disadvantaged groups of people, which further fits into our organisation’s aims. This is why we are striving for carbon neutrality” – John Bateup, CEO, WISE Employment

Next steps

WISE has plans to add more of its office tenancies into the CitySwitch program in the coming year.



We recorded a steady drop in greenhouse gas emissions between 2010 and 2011.

2007/08

2010/11

Get involved

Join CitySwitch and discover how small changes can make a big difference to Australia’s future environmental health – and that of the planet.

Visit www.cityswitch.net.au for more information or call the CitySwitch Program Manager in your state.

CitySwitch is a national tenant energy efficiency program. Previously known as the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative, the program works with tenants to improve office energy efficiency, thereby reducing the CO₂ emissions that contribute to climate change.

CitySwitch Green Office partners

