

MEDIA RELEASE



Weathertex signs up for Sustainability Advantage

22/03/2010:

Weathertex has joined the NSW Government's Sustainability Advantage Program.

Membership of the Program will give Weathertex a comprehensive roadmap for environmental action as well as support to reduce the company's risk and costs in areas such as compliance and climate change.

Weathertex CEO Paul Michael said "We have improved our processes and environmental performance over the last few years and see this as an opportunity to make further improvements as well as enhance Weathertex' reputation as a supplier and employer of choice."

"For example, we recently had the carbon stored in our timber inputs and the plant greenhouse gas emissions independently verified and can now proudly state that our products have a negative carbon footprint.

"This improved our understanding of how and where we can improve our manufacturing processes, and we've turned what was originally a way of managing future regulatory risk into the basis for positive marketing."

The Sustainability Advantage Program, run by the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water NSW (DECCW), involves an initial management diagnostic which sets priorities for the program. Over 18 months, the business works on tailored, flexible projects selected from various modules.

"Typically, participants in Sustainability Advantage can make savings averaging \$80,000 to \$100,000 David Trewin, of DECCW, said. "There are currently over 400 participants in the program ranging from Laminex and Koppers Australia to Austral Bricks and Rondo."

The Timber Development Association is working with DECCW to assist timber and wood products companies to take advantage of this and other government assistance to improve environmental, particularly energy, performance.

"There are some real financial and other benefits for companies to get involved," Steve Mitchell of the Timber Development Association said.

If you are interested in participating in the Program please contact Stephen Mitchell on 02 8837 3700 or email stephen.mitchell@tdansw.asn.au. Visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainbus for more information about this and other DECCW programs for business.

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Media enquiries, interviews:

- Stephen Mitchell – Sustainability Program Manager, Timber Development Association (02) 8424 3703 or 0432 860 100 or stephen.mitchell@tdansw.asn.au

MEDIA BACKGROUND

The Timber Development Association (TDA) and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW (DECCW) are recruiting timber and wood product businesses across NSW to programs that help companies become more energy efficient and reduce operating costs. The programs available to industry include:

Sustainability Advantage

[Sustainability Advantage](#) is a business support service from the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW (DECCW). It helps medium to large organisations identify and take advantage of opportunities to lower costs (through improved resource and energy efficiency), improve productivity and enhance a company's reputation as a supplier and employer of choice.

Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver

[Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver](#) offers an energy audit and no-cost technical support to help convert opportunities identified into effective and practical projects. The audit is offered at only 20 – 50 per cent of its actual cost – a significant saving for your business.

Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program

The [Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program](#) offers small businesses an energy assessment and rebates of up to \$5,000 to put recommendations from the assessment in place. Download further information on the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program.

Visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainbus for more information.