



ADELAIDE
CONVENTION
CENTRE

GOLD SERVICE. GREEN ATTITUDE



EARTHCHECK
SILVER CERTIFIED
2011

ADELAIDE: AUSTRALIA'S CONVENTION CITY

South Australia is a leader in renewable energy and was the first jurisdiction in the southern hemisphere to enact specific climate change legislation.

- With less than 8% of Australia's population, South Australia has over half of the nation's wind power capacity, 1/5 of the nation's grid-connected domestic solar energy and is leading the nation with far more rainwater tanks per head of population than any other capital city in Australia.
- South Australia is also a world leader in the development of 'hot rocks' (geothermal) energy generation, hosting 95% of all national investment in geothermal projects since 2002.
- The Government of South Australia provides 3 programs to support growth of South Australia's clean energy sector including the Business Sustainability Alliance, the Cleantech Partnering Program and the Eco Innovation Program (for more information please see www.southaustralia.biz).

Adelaide can justly lay claim to being the 'greenest' conference destination in Australia and the Adelaide Convention centre was the first convention centre in Australia to achieve EarthCheck Silver certification in 2009.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Our city is very walkable - and serviced by electric trams and the world's first solar-powered bus – when it comes to getting around, our delegates' environmental footprints tend to be their own.
- Our greenbelt of park lands makes up 45% of the total city area and our Mediterranean climate reduces the need for excessive heating or cooling.
- The international airport is just a 10-minute drive from the CBD so, compared with other cities, visitors save fuel as well as time and money.
- 30% of Adelaide's wastewater is reused, compared to 15% in other states; we have the highest uptake of solar hot water in the country and the lowest per household carbon footprint on the Australian mainland.
- More than 80% of beverage bottles and cans are recycled in South Australia every year under a container deposit program that has been running since the 1970s.

At the Adelaide Convention Centre, we take our corporate and social responsibilities very seriously. We believe that we have an obligation to set good examples in the way we behave as an organisation. Our green commitment is a vital part of this.

'*Gold Service. Green Attitude.*' has been our mantra since 2007. Enthusiasm for "thinking green" has spread throughout our workforce and it is undeniably part of our culture. Our environmental policy has become a natural part of our daily decision-making and we see our commitment as a vital part of our corporate and social responsibility.

We are promoting Adelaide as a clean, green destination; we are ensuring our venue operates in the most environmentally responsible ways; and we are encouraging our clients to partner with us in our crusade.

Our program is, by necessity, all-in and hands-on and we are "getting our hands dirty" in more ways than one. We have recognised the need to change and have a range of initiatives in place to minimise our impact on the environment.



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WASTE MINIMISATION

Since mid 2007 we have virtually eliminated organic waste going to landfill and we are aiming to reuse and recycle at least 90% of event waste.

BIOBIN

Since mid 2006 our Biobin composting system has resulted in 249.8 tonnes of organic waste being recycled and returned to the soil as fertilizer.

WORM FARM

Since mid 2008 our worms have consumed over 14.927 tonnes of organic waste and produced 1583 litres of worm juice and 3599kg of castings which has been used as fertiliser on our garden.

FOODBANK SA

Since early 2009 we have donated 38,675 individual meals to Foodbank SA, a not-for-profit organisation which coordinates the donation of food and groceries to welfare organisations around the State.

OZHARVEST

Since March 2011 we have donated 2504kg of food or 8264 meals to OzHarvest to feed people in our community experiencing disadvantage. This equates to 358,072 litres of water which would have been used to break down the landfill and 5008kg of greenhouse (kg CO₂-eq) gas emissions which would have been released into our atmosphere.

PLANET ARK 'CLOSE THE LOOP'

Since May 2011 we have diverted a total 130.84kg of printer cartridges/ drums/ inkjets/ general waste from landfill through Planet Ark's 'Close the Loop' program.

PRINTERS

All office printers are set to duplex, we buy recycled paper, and we use scrap paper for notepads.

GLASS/PLASTIC/CORK

All our glass bottles, plastic bottles, corks and bottle tops are recycled through the Scouts and Guides.

CANDLES

Since September 2007 we have operated a candle reuse project through which partially used candles from events held at the centre are donated to community groups or convention centre staff. To date we have donated 2765kg of candles which would have previously gone to landfill.

WATER CONSERVATION

E-WATER

Since 2009 we have been using a chemical-free cleaning and sanitising system called 'E-water' in our kitchens and public toilets to reduce the use and cost of cleaning products.

TAPS

Low volume, high-pressure spray taps are used for manual rinsing of dishes saving an estimated 720 litres per hour.

URINAL WATER SAVERS

Urinal water savers have been installed in all men's toilets. Savings are expected to exceed 1.3 million litres of water a year.

WATER SENSOR TAPS

The installation of water sensor taps in public bathrooms is saving about 700ml per person per wash.

WATER TANKS

Portable water tanks capture and re-use water from our compulsory fire system testing, as well as some rainwater, which is used to water our garden.

GARDEN

The Adelaide Convention Centre gardens have been replanted with water wise native plants.



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ENERGY EFFICIENCY

We currently purchase a minimum of 25% certified green electricity (mostly wind generated) and the carbon emissions from staging events can be accurately calculated and offset.

SUSTAINABLE MEETINGS

Since 2008 we have been offering sustainable meeting packages including carbon emission offsets; certified green electricity; catering produce sourced from local markets, harvested from good soils, grown in fresh air, and caught in clean seas; recyclable conference bags; recycled notepads and paper barrel pens. To date we have offset 1,182.93 tonnes of CO₂.

TREES FOR LIFE

The Adelaide Convention Centre shares a corporate partnership with South Australia's premier environmental organisation Trees For Life (TFL). TFL is helping us to offset the carbon dioxide emissions of events held at the centre through the retirement of voluntary carbon units plus the planting of native trees and shrubs in South Australia. Adelaide Convention Centre staff are involved in a voluntary native tree propagation program on site and to date have successfully grown over 2250 native seedlings. We also planted 1400 seedlings between 2010 and 2011.

BLOG

Launched in July 2011, OffCentre is the ACC blog where we tell our stories in our own way from the voices of our 500+ employees. For all of the latest news on our Community Involvement and everything Green visit the 'Good Guys' section at www.offcentre.com.au

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Finalist: APEX Award for excellence in convention centre management

Hall of Fame: Best Meeting Venue, Meetings & Events Australia award

Winner: Meeting and Business Tourism, Qantas Tourism award

Hall of Fame: South Australian Tourism Industry Award

Silver: Qantas Award for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism, South Australia Tourism Award

GOLD: Green Supplier IMEX International Award

SA Governor's Award for support to Foodbank SA



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CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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VARIETY SA

Since 2001, the Adelaide Convention Centre has been a platinum sponsor of Variety SA the Children Charity. We are particularly involved with supporting the Annual Gala Dinner and Santa's Fun Run. Learn more about this wonderful charity at www.variety.org.au/SA.

APPRENTICESHIPS, TRAINEESHIPS AND EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES

As a Registered Training Organisation the Adelaide Convention Centre offers opportunities for both young and mature residents, international students and new migrants to Australia to participate through a variety of sources.

Through Personnel Employment, Barkuma, we have trained and placed 6 individuals with significant learning disabilities in paid employment. As a result we have been nominated twice in three years for a Prime Minister's Award.