

SBE Quarterly Newsletter

May 2009 Edition



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SBE'S EDUCATION PORTFOLIO CONTINUES TO EXPAND

SBE has been providing assistance to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) to develop a new Policy on **Thermal Comfort, Energy and Ventilation**.



Using computer modeling and a representative school SBE has analysed combinations of building fabric thermal enhancements and various active comfort systems with an aim to reducing energy consumption and environmental impact while maximising thermal comfort and access to fresh air. It is intended these studies will help set new performance benchmarks for larger projects as well as provide 'deemed to satisfy' solutions for smaller projects. Quantity Surveyors Wilde and Woolard assisted in the cost benefit analyses developed in this study.

SBE provided ESD Consultancy Services for the soon to be completed **Dandenong Education Precinct (DEP)**, stage 1. Up to 300 students will be housed in a brand new 2 storey Building known as a School within a School (SWIS). The building has open planning and good access to views and natural daylighting. The building is well orientated and shaded, has improved levels of insulation in walls and roof, openable windows and a back up tempered ventilation system.

The back up tempered ventilation system activates when it's too hot or cold to open the windows outside. Fresh filtered air is drawn through a hollow core concrete floor slab. Contact with the concrete helps to temper the air's temperature as it passes through the slab. The air is further tempered with evaporative cooling or gas heating as required before being delivered into the building at the required temperature. Exhaust air is expelled via one way louvres in the façade. The good levels of comfort, daylighting and fresh air attained in the SWIS should help students to concentrate on their learning.

SBE has been appointed to assist with the Masterplanning on the new **Mt Clear Maths and Science Centre** in Ballarat. This facility will be designed to foster curiosity in mathematics, science, geology and sustainability. The building is to be a working demonstration of best practice in sustainable design and construction. We will aim for full autonomy in terms of energy, water and waste.

SBE is currently engaged on educational projects with ANU, KBT, UniSA, DEECD, UTAS, Woodleigh, Salesian College, Catholic Education Office WA, ACT DET, Melbourne University and Deakin University. SBE is a linkage partner of the University of Melbourne's Green Schools program and regularly contributes to TEFMA and CEFPI events.

JANE TONER TO SPEAK AT THE ASIA ECO GREEN BUILDING CONFERENCE

SBE's Jane Toner is to be a key note speaker at the **Asia Eco Green Building Conference** to be held in Shanghai in March 2009. She will be joining other experts in the field of Sustainability, from property developers, financiers, architects, designers, contractors, engineers and policy makers.



Jane's presentation will focus on Assessing "Eco" Tourism and Masterplanning Projects. In recent times it is rare for a tourism or masterplanning project not to express 'green' intentions for development, however, this concept can mean many things to different people and not all projects live up to their claims of being ecologically sensitive to the environments in which they are built.

A transcript of Jane's presentation will be available shortly after the event.

For more information on the conference, visit the [Asia Eco Green Building Conference website](#).

ENGINEERING INTERNSHIP AT SBE

For three months I was an intern at SBE's Melbourne office and the experience was in a nutshell - fantastic. The dynamic, friendly and engaging SBE team received me well (I hope) and having moved from Sydney to Melbourne just for the position they were helpful in explaining how the whole Melbourne system worked. Working on tasks relating to NABERS, Green Star, First Rate and computer modelling I learnt a great deal of technical know-how and also how the industry works. The mix of engineers and architects working hand in hand on all projects was a great way to introduce the world of the architect to the likes of me - an engineering geek.



Writing this with only a few more days until my departure I look back at the good times; the office worm farm providing a sickly sense of heat during the colder mornings, making my debut as an octopus at the Christmas party, the insanely mind numbing Green Star Cover sheets and free Monday meeting lunches. Most probably the best of all, was meeting the jolly good cats that run SBE (including those ones in Sydney). It has been possibly the best summer I've ever had. Goodbye, good luck and thanks for everything.

Andrew was an Engineering intern at SBE between December 08 and February 09. SBE will create similar opportunities in the future and invite expressions of interest from motivated ESD engineering students. Contact Jessica Town on 03 9923 2345.

CORPORATE COMPOSTING

SBE has recently experimented with worms and composting in the office. To date we have managed to:

- Divert 57 kilos of green waste from landfill
- Produce 8 cubic metres of compost for our home gardens
- Produce 64 litres of liquid fertiliser for our home gardens and office indoor plants



For a full run down of the delights of composting in the office, do's and don'ts please feel free to [download the report](#) from our [website](#).

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