

# SBE Quarterly Newsletter

## November 2007 edition



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### VICTORIOUS AT RAIA AWARDS

A former diesel locomotive maintenance facility transformed into lecture theatres and studios for student architects has seen Sustainable Built Environments, in association with Six Degrees, RAIA Award Winners four times over. The project won the Sustainable Architecture, Public Architecture and Heritage Awards at the Tasmania RAIA Awards earlier this year, and was announced as the winner of the National Award for Sustainable Architecture and the Lachlan Macquaire Award for Heritage on the 25th October 2007.



“The UTAS building stands as a working demonstration to the generations of architectural students passing through, that environmental sustainability can be achieved without compromise to architectural excellence. I would love to be studying here - and it’s fitting that such splendid design is the site for the making of architects, the people who will design and create our built environments in the future,” said Kerstin Thompson, jury chair, Tasmania.

The principles embodied in the building design include adaptive reuse of existing fabric, low emission materials and finishes, and recycled and sustainable resourced materials. The building achieves a 40-50% running cost saving over comparable university buildings, a 54% water use reduction, and a 40-50% greenhouse gas reduction. The resultant flexible, adaptable, healthy, naturally ventilated and visually stimulating environment for learning has been realised within a very tight budget.

### SBE IS GROWING

Two new members have joined the SBE team:

#### Beckham Price - ESD Project Manager

A new addition to the Sydney office, Beck is a U.S. Green Building Council L.E.E.D accredited professional. He is uniquely qualified because of his broad range of experience working on large scale projects requiring close collaboration between project and design team members and consultants.



#### Chris Begert Graduate Engineer

The Melbourne office has recently welcomed Chris to their growing

engineering department. Chris's experience includes various projects ranging from conducting Level 2 Energy Audits, modelling light levels and energy performance to revealing ESD opportunities at industrial facilities. He promotes implementing ESD measures at an early stage to ensure that potential benefits can be maximised.

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## SUSTAINABLE RENOVATION OF HISTORIC HOTEL IN CASTLEMAINE

The building is situated on a busy corner on the main street of Castlemaine's CBD; it was originally a hotel, built in the nineteenth century, and has undergone many usage changes and renovations in its lifespan.



The building was recently purchased by Neil and Heather Barrett, who are committed to achieving the highest level of energy efficiency. As part of the overall refurbishment of the building the following were investigated;

- Passive HVAC options to achieve a 20-30% reduction in energy use and;
- Efficiency options to achieve a 20-30% reduction in water use.

SBE investigated a wide range of opportunities to achieve the desired reductions in energy and water consumption. They ranged from quite simple, cost effective measures such as shading, insulation and efficient fixtures to more extensive measures such as a new tempered fresh air supply system with solar pre-heating. A computer model of the building was developed to analyse the impacts of each measures.

In the final report, Neil and Heather have a prioritised list of practical options, ranked in order of cost-effectiveness. We look forward to seeing the resulting building when the refurbishment is complete.

Sustainability Victoria provided 50% funding for this investigation, as part of its COBELL program.

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