

# SBE Quarterly Newsletter

## September 2009 edition



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### SBE WINNERS OF THE NAWIC AWARDS

The NAWIC Awards were held at the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne in August. Attending the event were women (and men) from a wide cross-section of the Building and Construction Industry. Labourers, project managers, architects, CEO's and more from both public and private sectors came together to celebrate the increasing presence of women in an industry traditionally occupied by men.



The night aimed to acknowledge the achievements of women in this industry.

SBE is proud to announce Danielle McCartney, Nicki Taylor, Jane Toner and Karen Hovenga as winners of The Crystal Vision Award for advancing the interests of women in the construction industry and The Building Commission Award for outstanding achievement as a business woman.

### GREEN BUILDING MISSION TO GERMANY

In June this year, Nicki Taylor joined the Green Building Council on their Green Building Mission to Germany. The week long tour took in the latest in green building and design and research from Berlin to Stuttgart. The Mission took in site visits in over 15 commercial, public and



residential buildings, attended a Green Building Conference, and spoke with representatives of the Fraunhofer Institute, the German Green Building Council and the German Government.

A full version of Nicki's experiences on the tour, including discussion on:

- The next generation of Green Building tools?
- German Government programs to drive energy efficiency?
- How do Australian Buildings Stack Up?
- What can we learn from built examples in Germany?

Is available [here](#)

### SBE'S ESD WORKSHOPS

SBE has been hosting a series of workshops in local councils to assist with the development of appropriate standards in major project briefs. As part of this series, SBE recently visited Bayside City Council, which is currently introducing a Steps/SDS assessment scheme in their planning policy.



The interactive workshop focussed on the assessment of construction projects using Steps/SDS as well as how these two tools can be used to create project briefs which can help ensure the uptake of the desired ESD initiatives. Potential pitfalls of briefs with regard to ESD were illustrated by discussing a recent real world project and comparing the briefed requirements to the achieved results.

The workshop was well received by the participants and the background information provided by SBE sparked fruitful discussions. SBE will continue to offer training sessions to Council staff to facilitate the development of Council Project ESD briefs and benchmarks.

Please feel free to contact Jessica Town in the SBE office on 03 9923 2345 if you are interested in more information.

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## SBE'S 5 STAR GREENSTAR OFFICE

In August SBE moved to the new 5-Star GreenStar building, Northbank Place East Tower. As the ESD consultant on this building, SBE is proud to be operating from a building that boasts:



- A 5 Star GreenStar rating,
- A design to achieve 5 Star ABGR base building rating,
- Full GreenStar points for water and 100% on-site stormwater collection and reuse,
- High levels of thermal comfort with increased levels of fresh air and a high level of control,
- Reduced embodied energy through the use of recycled content in the concrete, using recycled reinforcing steel, and replacing all PVC piping with HDPE,
- Close proximity to public transport in addition to generous provision of bicycle parking facilities,
- A BMS to allow on-going monitoring and management of the building, and
- Encapsulation of contamination from the previous site use of a petrol station

A case study on Northbank can be found [here](#)

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## **COSTCO WAREHOUSE OPENING EVENT**

SBE's Anetta Pizag and Imm Chew attended the opening of Costco Warehouse in the Docklands on 16 August 2009.



Anetta and Imm joined other Costco stakeholders to celebrate the beginning of a new retailer in the Australian market. SBE provided ESD Consultancy Services for the building's design.

The Costco store received the VicUrban Docklands ESD Award of Excellence. SBE's work on this project enabled a wide range of water, energy and waste reduction strategies coupled with improved indoor environment quality and materials. In particular, Costco has a unique low energy lighting system that makes use of an array of skylights on the roof and light fittings controlled by photoelectric sensors.

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## **SBE'S 8TH BIRTHDAY**

This year's Vernal Equinox marked SBE's 8th Birthday. Our birthday party was a small affair this year due to the office move. Those of you who help us celebrate SBE's birthday each year may have noticed our uncharacteristic silence on the topic. Rest assured that you were in our minds and we had a drink on your behalf.



## **WELCOME MICHAEL RAMSAY**

We are pleased to welcome Michael Ramsay to the SBE Team. Michael recently completed a Bachelors Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Commerce at the University of Queensland and is currently enrolled in a Masters of Engineering in Sustainable Energy at RMIT. He joins us with one and a half years experience in the water and wastewater industry in Victoria. Michael has a keen interest in all areas of sustainable development, particularly in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.



## **VICTORIAN TRADE MISSION TO INDIA**

Jane Toner has just returned from India where she was a delegate on a Victorian Trade Mission to Mumbai and Hyderabad India organised by the Australian Industry Group (AIG) and the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development (DIIRD).



The mission was to gain an understanding of how the Indian Building Industry is approaching the concept of green building and to identify potential business opportunities. The culmination of the mission was the Green Building Congress in Hyderabad. This event brought together leading experts on green building from India and abroad. Jane presented case studies on retrofitting commercial buildings. Jane is pictured here with the Chairman of Orbit Corporation, Ravi Kiran Aggarwal.

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