

CASE STUDY FOOD PROCESSING GOLDEN CIRCLE



For more than six decades, Golden Circle has been canning fruit on Brisbane's northern outskirts. Across the years, it has increasingly adopted eco-efficiency business practices – getting ever closer to truly world-class sustainability.

CAN-DO SPIRIT

A long-term ecoBiz partner, Golden Circle has always sought to combine the opportunities of membership with its own Global Performance System.

The company's eco-efficiency quest examines all operations: from supply of fruit and vegetables, through to processing and delivery.

LIQUID ASSETS

A major eco push for 2014 was permanently reducing water use.

To establish both a baseline and accurate tracking, Golden Circle installed sub-metering throughout its facilities before rolling out its 'Every Drop Counts' program. Largely a change-management initiative, it targeted staff by promoting water-saving ideas while teaching them about new equipment.

Meanwhile, the company optimised procedures and equipment on its canning line and installed automatic clean-in-place systems.

In combination, these initiatives reduced water use per tonne of product by 8 per cent from mid-2012 to mid-2014.

TASTE OF SUCCESS

Since mid-2012, Golden Circle's campaign to reduce solid waste to landfill has delivered a 6 per cent reduction per tonne of product. The remainder of the waste is processed in a commercial composting facility.

Along with water and waste, Golden Circle is also looking at its energy costs. After accessing federal funding, the company installed variable-speed drives on various refrigeration and boiler system motors.

Recently, a change in business strategy towards increased beverage production will also deliver improved eco-efficiencies as a side benefit.

GOLDEN CIRCLE

Over many years Golden Circle has sought to get staff involved in efforts to minimise its water, waste and energy use. Today it is paying off handsomely.

ECOBIZ OBJECTIVES

- Celebrate achievements and engage staff to further reduce electricity, water and waste costs
- Learn from other industry sustainability leaders

ACTION PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

- Using existing internal systems and staff engagement to meet energy and water-use targets
- Finding ways to better utilise organic wastes
- Promoting progress and encouraging further resource-saving ideas with staff

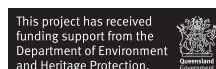
ANNUAL SAVINGS

- On track for water-use savings of 11,500ML
- On track for energy-use savings of 142 megawatt hours
- 6 per cent decrease in solid waste to landfill



THE ECOBIZ TEAM IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU.

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