

# HUME CITY COUNCIL

## BUSINESS EFFICIENCY NETWORK

### RESULTS FOR 2011



The Business Efficiency Network (BEN) has worked with a wide range of people this year to achieve some excellent outcomes for the Hume and wider Melbourne business community. Here is a snapshot of BEN's activities and results for 2011.

## FORUMS

**February** - Choose GreenPower Forum

**May** - Waste to Resource Forum

**August** - Manufacturing Melbourne's Future Forum

**November** - Leadership & Cultural Change Forum

Collectively over 180 people participated in forums hosted by BEN in conjunction with a range of partners including Enterprise Connect, the Department of Business Innovation and VECCI. Funding of \$51,000 was secured to run these forums.

## INDUSTRIAL ECOLOGY

BEN has been working with businesses in Hume and our wider Melbourne networks to facilitate a better understanding of, and uptake of Industrial Ecology partnerships, working in conjunction with the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA), South East Water, City West Water and the National Industrial Symbiosis Program (NISP) in the UK.

### Industrial Ecology in Action

Hume businesses Futuris and Close the Loop have formed a partnership that embraces Industrial Ecology and are recycling waste from Futuris' automotive industry to Close the Loop to manufacture eWood®. There are future plans for the waste to be re-made into automotive industry materials. The partnership aims to divert 400-500 tonnes of waste from landfill and create 4 new jobs in 2012.

## NETWORK

BEN Continues to grow across a variety of business, and business related sectors. Since October 2010 the network has grown by over 180 people.

## GREEN PROGRAMS

**Choose GreenPower**

**Paint the Town Green**

**Energy Efficiency Audit**

BEN fostered opportunities for Hume businesses to reduce their environmental impact through three programs in 2011 in conjunction with VECCI and Enterprise Connect. The collective results of these programs include:

- Savings of over \$100,000 per annum through the Choose GreenPower program with Betta Foods and Paint the Town Green sustainable lighting retrofits with eight Sunbury businesses
- A reduction of carbon emissions by approximately 1,140 tonnes per annum (the equivalent of taking 223 cars off the road for a year)
- Genesis Now are undertaking an Energy Efficiency Audit with CMA Ecocycle, kindly funded by Enterprise Connect. The results will be published in due course.

## LIBRARY

BEN now has a modest and helpful library of books and dvds for members to borrow and share. Please visit the Business Sustainability Resources and Programs page on the BEN website.

## MEDIA

BEN has published a number of articles this year to promote our events and activities through the local Leader Newspapers and the Hume Economic Update. To read these articles, please visit our Business Sustainability Events and News page on the BEN website.

Thanks to everyone for your involvement, we look forward to a great year ahead in 2012.

**For further information please visit:**

**[www.hume.vic.gov.au/business\\_sustainability](http://www.hume.vic.gov.au/business_sustainability)**

**or contact the Business Efficiency Network**

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**THE NEXT  
INDUSTRIAL  
REVOLUTION**

