

## Emissions Trading – what does it mean for your business?

In recent months there has been much media activity focusing on climate change and emissions trading.

The International Panel on Climate Change, a UN body, has concluded that there is a very high likelihood that climate change is being caused by humans. They have called for urgent international coordinated actions to reverse the trend in growth of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gas emissions.

The Australian Government responded by commissioning the Garnaut Report which looked at the economic cost of Climate Change and, more recently, has released its Green Paper on the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

This scheme is set to put a price on carbon pollution in Australia for the first time. To commence in 2010, the scheme will see the 1000 top carbon polluters having to purchase carbon pollution permits and acquit these to the Government each year.

The Government has set a threshold of 25,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year for any site, and 125,000 tonnes for a whole business. That means if your company generates more than this you will need to report it to the Government and purchase permits.

### *The cost of climate change*

- 5 degrees temperature increase by 2070
- 550% increase in damage costs to buildings
- 92% decline in agriculture in the Murray Darling by 2100
- 35% increase in cost of water
- Catastrophic destruction of Great Barrier Reef
- Increase in cyclone and drought severity

Source: Aust. Govt. Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper, 2008

## Gardening with the Guru's

The Garden Gurus returns this spring with a fresh new-look; a season of great gardening innovations and a well-loved cast including Nigel Ruck, Trevor Cochrane and Neville Passmore.

SITA is excited to be a sponsor of the environmentally friendly living feature on The Garden Gurus. Our segments on the benefits of recycling; reducing your impact on climate change; and alternative waste technologies will appear in the October episodes.

The Garden Gurus airs Saturdays on Channel 9 at 5.00pm (5.30pm in WA).



## Recycling Reduces Climate Change

Recycling is one of the simplest and most cost effective activities a workplace can implement to help combat climate change.

Firstly, recycling can minimise the amount of organic matter (cardboard, timber, green waste and food) going to landfill.

Secondly, recycling products such as aluminium, steel, plastic, glass, cardboard and paper captures their "embodied energy" and reduces the emissions of companies reusing these recovered resources.

For example making new aluminium from recycled aluminium cans saves 95% of the energy used compared to mining and processing virgin materials (in this case bauxite) to make the same product. This general rules apply to glass, steel, cardboard, etc each with its own embodied energy value.

SITA is working with its customers to maximise their recycling and to reduce their carbon footprint. Call 13 13 35 to find out more.



**Recycling**  
a 240L bin of paper  
**per fortnight**  
for a year will save the same energy as driving a family car for  
**7000km**  
or watching an LCD TV for  
**11,000 hours!**

# Cleanliness is next to Godliness

World Youth Day 2008 was the most momentous event to hit Sydney since the 2000 Olympics. Over 700,000 pilgrims from Australia and around the world came for their own personal, albeit brief, encounter with the Holy Father.

But have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes to ensure that an event of this magnitude keeps its environmental footprint low and its venues free from unsightly waste?

Covering large scale venues such as Centennial Park, The Domain, Hyde Park, Barangaroo and most notably Randwick Racecourse, SITA began co-ordinating equipment requirements three months prior to the event.

During the course of the event SITA delivered and serviced over 3,500 bins (including 3000 wheelie bins), collected over 310 tonnes of waste and utilised more than 600 man and truck labour hours.



## Recharging battery recycling

Over 8,000 tonnes of batteries end up in Australian landfills each year and contain toxic metals including cadmium, mercury and lead which may be harmful to people, and the environment, if not disposed of responsibly.

There are many battery components that can be recycled including the Nickel-cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride and Lithium-ion in

rechargeable batteries. Recovering precious metals such as silver, iron and mercury from used batteries means we are protecting the environment and recovering limited resources.

To help combat this environmental hazard, SITA recently launched its Battery Recycling program in the ACT. For more information visit [sita.com.au](http://sita.com.au)

## Wingfield opens its doors

SITA's newest Recycling Transfer Station in Wingfield, SA recently held its inaugural equipment open day. Over sixty customers came along to view onsite demonstrations of equipment and learn more about innovative recycling services.

In addition to general waste, the Wingfield Transfer Station is able to accept paper and cardboard, plastic, co-mingled containers and batteries for recycling from the public, including large commercial clients.

The depot is currently receiving approximately 600 tonnes of cardboard and 25 tonnes of plastic a month for recycling.


The very successful Open Day will be repeated for SITA and all potential clients in October.



Equipment demonstration at Wingfield site

## Looking for additional services?

If you want to improve your recycling rates, reduce your costs or improve your environmental footprint, then visit SITA's website today to request additional services or information on new services.

 **web** [www.sita.com.au](http://www.sita.com.au)

 **email** [info@sita.com.au](mailto:info@sita.com.au)

## Out of the River

Riverfestival is a community event held annually in Brisbane during August and September.

This year local Brisbane school children undertook a workshop to make 350 kites out of 3575 plastic bags. The kites will be flown as part of a unique display called "Out of the River...Imagine" on RiverSunday, a free family-friendly event promoting environmental awareness and highlighting the work of Brisbane's Healthy Waterways.

In addition to sponsoring the waste services for the 2008 Riverfestival, SITA also provided the collection bins for the innovative kites' project and other community events during August and September.



Making kites at Earnshaw State School

We're green... and always have been

[sita.com.au](http://sita.com.au) 13 13 35  
Leaders in recycling and waste management

**SITA**  
Environmental  
Solutions