

Rondo: Sealing unsustainable gaps

Sustainability Advantage Case Study

Rondo

Rondo Building Services is a manufacturer and supplier of lighter gauge roll formed steel products and associated services, primarily for the construction industry in Australia, New Zealand, Asia Pacific, India and the Middle East.

Rondo opened for business in 1964 supplying suspended metal ceiling systems. This was followed by the manufacture of a range of light gauge steel studs. In 1971, Rondo was sold, becoming the equal joint venture of AGL (Boral) and CSR Gyprock.

Industry

Manufacturing / Building supplies

Installation of a 90,000L water tank at the new Rondo national facility. The tank which will store captured rainwater to reuse at the site.



Sustainability drivers

Rondo Building Services looks for new ways to make its business processes more sustainable for the benefit of its employees, customers and the community. Rondo joined the Sustainability Advantage Program to identify gaps in its environmental policy and access resources to assist in closing those gaps.

Achievements and savings

Energy and water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projected annual savings of \$11,000 in 2009-10 in reduced electricity use through improved power factor correction• 30 per cent annual reduction in LPG consumption• Replaced six electric hot water heaters with solar gas booster• Energy efficient sensor lighting installed in administration and factory areas• Projected reduction in town water consumption by 50 per cent by harvesting rainwater (95,000 litre tank capacity) to flush toilets and urinals
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Six cubic metres of paper and cardboard saved from landfill per week• Reuse program for pallets and skids to reduce landfill
Recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased paper and cardboard recycling from nil to two three-metre bins a week• Recycling of all metals on-site

Steps

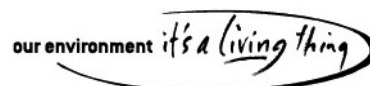
Implementing resource efficiency

Rondo has been a member of the Sustainability Advantage Program since October 2007, having completed a number of modules including Resource Efficiency. Through the Program, Rondo has accessed the technical support needed to improve the company's energy efficiency. This has included commissioning more efficient equipment, such as its new forklifts, which offer a minimum annual saving of 30 per cent in LPG consumption.

The Program has helped Rondo identify and implement significant recycling projects to reduce waste to landfill and raise staff awareness about their individual environmental footprints.



Environment,
Climate Change
& Water



These projects have led to:

- increasing paper and cardboard recycling from nil to two three-metre bins a week
- improving metal recycling on-site, with all metals now recycled
- identifying more sustainable material substitutes for packaging
- introducing commingled bins in the canteen
- introducing signage to remind staff to turn off lights when leaving a room.

In 2009, Rondo relocated its national operations. The relocation will allow Rondo to grow its manufacturing capacity by more than 50 per cent and achieve significant operational efficiencies. Sustainability Advantage is providing the company with technical support and expertise to implement energy and water efficiency projects at the site. Initiatives include:

- reviewing environmental factors for the design and construction of the new site
- power factor correction with the potential to save \$11,000 per annum in electricity consumption
- assessing on and off-site green energy generation and supply solutions
- investigating opportunities to use waste heat for comfort heating
- reducing machine idle time
- improving lighting controls and efficiencies in office, manufacturing and warehouse areas
- adopting suitable building architecture to reduce heating, cooling and lighting requirements
- harvesting water for use in toilets and gardens.

Outcomes

Sustainability Advantage is a vital partner in supporting Rondo to develop a more sustainable business model. Through the Program, Rondo can make good on its commitment to sustainability, especially during the growth period at its new facility. Sustainability Advantage is helping Rondo achieve its objectives of creating a cleaner, more environmentally-friendly workplace, saving money on waste and reducing its carbon footprint.

The Program is also helping Rondo develop better working relationships with suppliers and distributors by creating more sustainable supply chain models. The company's reputation as a leader in sustainability is growing rapidly, providing Rondo with a point of difference and a competitive advantage.

'The frankness of those who attend Program meetings allows for constructive discussions, sharing of personal experiences and developing of networks that share the same goal of credible sustainability.'

Gonz Marquez, Rondo Quality & Environment Manager

Next steps

Rondo is focusing on how Sustainability Advantage can further support the company in implementing energy and water saving projects at its new site. The company's

success to date, and its increasing knowledge on incorporating sustainability into its operational and manufacturing activities, is helping to smooth the transition.

Through Sustainability Advantage Industrial Ecology networks, Rondo is investigating opportunities to increase its use of recycled packaging e.g. substituting virgin timber packaging with recycled rubber, steel and plastic composites.

More information

Rondo Building Services Pty Ltd

57-87 Lockwood Road
Erskine Park NSW 2759

Call: 02 9912 7300

Email: gonz.marquez@rondo.com.au

Visit: www.rondo.com.au

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW (DECCW)

Call: 02 8837 6000

Email: sustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au

Visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Register

Contact DECCW's Business Partnerships to register for Sustainability Advantage.

Call: 02 8837 6000

Email: sustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au

Visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainbus

Achieve a Sustainability Advantage. Sustainability Advantage is a business support service from the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW (DECCW). It is designed to help your organisation understand sustainability, successfully manage for a better environment and add business value.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER NSW 59-61 Goulburn Street, Sydney. PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232.

Phone +61 2 8837 6000 **Fax** +61 2 8837 6099 **Email** sustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au www.environment.nsw.gov.au