

# An Environmental Checklist for Foundries

This environmental checklist has been prepared to help you find out if you are doing the right thing in relation to the environment.

The questions are designed to make you think about the various aspects of your business that could be having an affect on the environment, and to give you some ideas on how you could improve your environmental performance. They are similar to the questions that a local council officer could ask you in an environmental assessment or audit of your business.

## CAN YOU ANSWER YES TO THESE QUESTIONS?

If you answer NO to one or more of these questions then you could be missing opportunities to save money, or you could be harming the environment, breaking the law or leaving your business vulnerable to fines and prosecution under environmental legislation.

### Water quality management

#### Stormwater

Do you know where the stormwater drains on your premises are located?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you have any features or procedures in place to prevent stormwater pollution?

Yes  No  N/A

Are the stormwater drains around your business free of pollution? (litter, sand, metal shavings etc.)

Yes  No  N/A

Do you store all equipment, materials and liquids so that spills or leaks could not enter the stormwater system?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you regularly clean up the surface areas around your premises?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you use a broom instead of a hose to sweep and clean up the surface areas around your premises?

Yes  No  N/A

#### Wastewater

Do you have a trade waste agreement or permit with Sydney Water or the local water authority (if needed)?

Yes  No  N/A

Do floor drains in the work area drain to either a storage tank or direct to the sewer?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you use a vacuum cleaner (appropriate to the process) to clean up dust and sand?

Yes  No  N/A

#### Groundwater

Do you know if your site has groundwater under it?

Yes  No  N/A

If there is groundwater under your site, do you take precautions to prevent pollutants from entering the groundwater?

Yes  No  N/A

### Waste management

Are all your wastes stored in a contained area (ie. bunded and roofed) to prevent pollution of stormwater drains?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you separate any of your wastes (items for reuse, return to supplier, recycling)?

Yes  No  N/A

Have you analysed your wastes to see if you could make cost savings on disposal?

Yes  No  N/A

#### Waste sand

Do you know the composition of your waste sand?

Yes  No  N/A

If not, would you be willing to have your waste sand analysed and tested?

Yes  No  N/A

If a supplier was willing to take your waste sand for reuse can you guarantee a regular supply?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you have a licensed waste transporter to transport: waste sand?

Yes  No  N/A

metal?

Yes  No  N/A

waste chemicals?

Yes  No  N/A

liquid wastes?

Yes  No  N/A

## Air quality management

Do you take measures to prevent dust from leaving your premises?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you take measures to prevent fumes and vapour (including odorous emissions) from leaving your premises?

Yes  No  N/A

## Hazardous materials

Do you store all hazardous materials (such as resins, catalysts) in a bunded, covered area that will not allow any spilled or leaked materials to enter the stormwater system?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you have a Dangerous Goods Licence from WorkCover, if needed?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you have all the relevant material safety data sheets (MSDS) and keep them in an accessible place?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you have a spill procedure kit and written spill procedures?

Yes  No  N/A

## Noise management

Do you regularly check and carry out maintenance on noisy equipment?

Yes  No  N/A

If you have had complaints about noise, have you identified the source of the noise and taken steps to reduce its effects?

Yes  No  N/A

## Management of premises

Have you made any changes to your business for environmental reasons?

Yes  No  N/A

Do you have an environmental policy or plan?

Yes  No  N/A

If you answered NO to any of the questions in this checklist you can use the information in this package to develop an environmental improvement program that will be good for you, your staff and customers.

Now that you have completed this checklist and identified the areas where you can make improvements:

- Read through the environmental information sheets.
- Get started on an environmental improvement program that will be good for you, your staff and your customers.

**THANK YOU FOR CARING  
ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT!**