

Case Study Norton Rose – committed to tackling climate change



Norton Rose Group is a leading international legal practice, offering a full business law service from offices in Europe, the Middle East and Asia Pacific.

Norton Rose specialises in financial institutions, energy, infrastructure and commodities, transport and technology.

Norton Rose Group comprises Norton Rose LLP, Norton Rose Australia and their respective affiliates with more than 1800 lawyers worldwide.

The Norton Rose Group is committed to tackling climate change from an operational and legal practice perspective with a number of pre-eminent Australian

and international lawyers dedicated to the area of sustainability.

A showcase tenancy

The company's Grosvenor Place tenancy in Sydney accommodates approximately 400 staff over five levels.

Norton Rose Australia moved into this tenancy in January 2008 incorporating sustainable design principles including sensor based lighting.

Since then, Norton Rose has implemented important initiatives to create a sustainable workplace, encouraging collaboration and improvements to employee productivity and wellbeing.

Goals

- Achieve an above average NABERS Energy rating
- Create a sustainable workplace through behavioural change and minimal technological change
- Encourage and assist clients to achieve sustainable workplaces



Signatory status	
Date joined CitySwitch	May 2010
Tenancy size	8,900 sqm
NABERS Commitment rating	★★★★
Website	www.nortonrose.com
Key outcomes	
Annual financial saving	\$42,000
Annual energy and CO2 saving	235,770 kWh/ 214, 434 KgCo2 equivalent
Technology	Personal carbon footprint software, server virtualisation, desktop power controls, t5 lighting upgrades and staff awareness.
Awards	CitySwitch NSW Signatory of Year 2011

Educational initiatives drive behaviour change

Key initiatives

A number of technical upgrades and improvements to existing systems supported the roll-out of staff engagement tools and resources. For example:

- Installation of sensor and zoned lighting as part of premises move in 2008;
- Conversion to T5 lighting;
- Improvements to desktop computer power controls through software which automates shutdown and power use of desktop computers;
- Increased virtualisation of computer room server hardware, reducing energy consumption in the data centre.

Educational initiatives drive behaviour change

In support of the above technical upgrades, Norton Rose Australia implemented several initiatives to ensure staff were engaged with the practice's sustainability targets, and that their actions were supported by educational tools and other resources. For example:

- **An in-house Sustainability Guide** was produced, providing direction in areas including; procurement, energy efficiency in the office and at home, car pooling and riding a bike to work.

- This resource was published on the practice's intranet.
- **Personal Footprint reporting** was rolled-out to support awareness and behaviour change. All staff were notified of the availability of the reporting software which tracks energy consumption at an individual level and includes emissions from printing. The application also allows staff to monitor their home and travel related energy consumption.
- **The E-File application** was developed to support electronic filing, helping staff move away from paper-based files. This encouraged a reduction in physical printing, a significant contributor to energy consumption and space utilisation in legal practice.

A key challenge

An initial key challenge was knowing where to start with the myriad of worthwhile sustainability initiatives.

Once Norton Rose Australia were on board with CitySwitch, the process of undertaking a NABERS audit became relatively easy. To streamline the process, internal resources were allocated to conduct official Accredited Assessor training.

“We are proud of our commitment to help reduce the impact of climate change. Improving building energy efficiency by committing to targets and networking with other tenants and peers is the most effective and immediate way to achieve meaningful progress. CitySwitch meets this need perfectly.”

Don Boyd,
Global Deputy Chief Executive and Managing Partner,
Norton Rose Australia.

This approach saved the firm money in the long-term and ensured full ownership and understanding of the process and energy efficiency outcomes.

Get involved

Join CitySwitch and discover how small changes can make a big difference to Australia's future environmental health – and that of the planet.

Visit www.cityswitch.net.au for more information or call the CitySwitch Program Manager in your state. Contact details are listed on the website.

CitySwitch is a national tenant energy efficiency program. Previously known as the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative, the program works with tenants to improve office energy efficiency, thereby reducing the CO₂ emissions that contribute to global warming.

CitySwitch Green Office partners

