

ecoBiz

Queensland

ecoBiz Queensland

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Great for business. Great for the environment.

Fact sheet
Introduction to
ecoBiz



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Great for business.
Great for the
environment.

Ultimately, the business outcomes of improved eco-efficiency include stronger market position, competitive advantage and growth.

In addition to establishing new process benchmarks, some businesses find that eco-efficiency initiatives make a major contribution to continuous improvement and innovation. Ultimately the business outcomes are competitive advantage, a stronger market position and growth.

ecoBiz is the EPA's signature partnership program with Queensland business and industry. **ecoBiz** can help your business to achieve cost savings and take advantage of the profitability of improved environmental performance.

By taking closer account of the energy, water and materials that are used to produce goods and services, **ecoBiz** participants are showing that it is possible to do more with less.

ecoBiz dividends are most likely to be seen in cost savings through reduced energy and water consumption, and more productive use of materials.

What sets the **ecoBiz** program apart from other eco-efficiency tools, is that it provides the user with a simple methodology for defining resource costs in terms of units of production. This assists a business to prioritise areas for improvement, and enables accurate calculations of payback periods.

Eco-efficiency savings directly increase profit.

**Given 5% margin:
\$1000 of savings equates to
\$20,000 of sales every year!**

Business benefits

Achieve **resource and cost savings** through:

- more efficient use of energy, materials and water
- reduced solid and liquid waste disposal
- better productivity
- improved staff morale
- risk minimisation.

Gain **competitive advantage** by meeting:

- community expectations for better environmental performance
- growing demand for 'environmentally friendly' goods and services
- supply chain expectations based on international standards
- the challenge of positioning your organisation in the marketplace ahead of competitors.

Participant privileges

Once a business has completed step 6 in the ecoBiz process, they are deemed to be an ecoBiz Partner and permitted to use the ecoBiz symbol (see below) on communication and promotional material. This demonstrates that the business has made eco-efficient improvements.

When an ecoBiz Partner achieves outstanding levels of environmental and economic performance, the EPA will promote these achievements.

Another feature of the program is the rebate scheme, which is designed to assist with the capital cost of projects that demonstrate a high level of innovation, increase recycling, and conserve water and energy.

Rebate assistance of up to \$150,000, limited to a maximum of 30 percent of capital equipment costs, is available on completion of projects identified in the ecoBiz Action Plan. Project eligibility and rebate criteria are detailed in the ecoBiz Rebate Guidelines which are available from the ecoBiz website www.epa.qld.gov.au/ecobiz (<http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/ecobiz>) or by contacting 1300 369 388.



Where to start

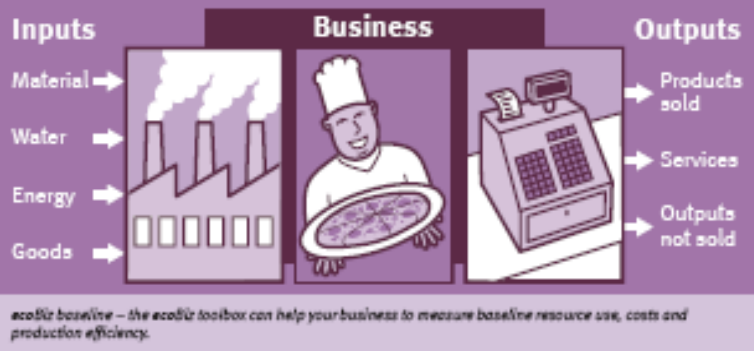
The ecoBiz toolbox is available on the EPA website at www.epa.qld.gov.au or on CD from the ecoBiz team. Phone 1300 369 388 or email ecobiz@epa.qld.gov.au

Fill in the application form to join, then work through the steps to greater business success and reduced environmental impact.

For each step in the process, the ecoBiz toolbox provides the user-friendly resources you need, including spreadsheets, reference materials and case studies to give you ideas for improvement.

The six steps to ecoBiz:

- 1 **Application form**
- 2 **Baseline assessment** - assess your resource consumption
- 3 **Site survey** - conduct a 'walk through' of your business to identify opportunities for improvement
- 4 **Action Plan** - shows the eco-efficiency improvements to be made
- 5 **Implementation** - of Action Plan items
- 6 **Re-assessment** - re-assess your resource consumption to demonstrate savings



The seven principles of eco-efficiency:

1. Reduce the material intensity of goods and services (make more goods with fewer inputs)
2. Reduce the energy intensity of goods and services (make more goods with less energy)
3. Reduce the dispersion of any toxic substances (make more goods with less poisonous waste)
4. Enhance the recyclability of materials (make the goods recyclable)
5. Maximise sustainable use of renewable resources (make goods out of materials that won't run out)
6. Extend the durability of products (make goods that last)
7. Increase the service intensity of goods and services (meet demand with a service and not with goods)

Source: The World Business Council for Sustainable Development.



