

Wridgways & The Environment

As a global citizen, Wridgways acknowledge effective environmental management as a business and social priority. Through the recognition of its duty to the wider community, Wridgways are committed to minimise its environmental impact through the execution of environmental best practice in all aspects of its operations and the continuous improvement and development of unique approaches to its environmental management.

Wridgways are involved in numerous positive environmental activities and are leading the way in the removals industry as the first company to have an accredited environmental system to International Standard 14001.

Wridgways have made a conscious commitment to the reduction of the organisations environmental footprint. Its corporate social responsibility to environment is demonstrated, not only by third party audited accreditation, but also by quantifiable environmental targets, annual environmental management plans, and measured by key performance indicators.

Senior management's commitment to act on carbon emission is demonstrated by the introduction of carbon neutral policies to complement its continual improvement methods within company policies and procedures.

The implementation and endorsement of Wridgways distinctive Environmental Management System completes the accreditation triangle of quality, workplace safety and environment. Its commitment to industry excellence and leadership is evidenced by the fact that is the only company within the industry to be accredited by all three national and international standards.

What is Wridgways doing?

Deduction in Resource Usage

Wridgways are committed to reducing resource usage, by increasing the unit utilisation rate of its largest consumable resource: the removalist carton. Wridgways aim to increase the utilisation rate of the carton by 33%, which will ultimately result in a 1/3 decrease of consumption. Reaching this objective by decreasing the disposal rate will result in saving trees, and reduction of emissions through the manufacturing and transportation of the finished product.

Increasing Recycling & Minimising Landfill

Wridgways are committed to increasing the ratio of recycling to common waste. By the managed segregation of waste, and increasing the quantity of recycling bins for staff members, Wridgways aim to drastically deduce landfill by segregation.

Energy Efficiency & Greenhouse Emissions

Various operational level initiatives are underway including elevating environmental awareness at every level within the organisation. Structural and engineering controls have been put into place. An energy usage matrix is presently being devised which will have the ability to track usage and reflect costs and emissions. Within the energy management equation, cost reduction is a function of lower usage rates. However, some energy costs may increase due to the use of renewable energy options and the introduction of mandatory carbon trading schemes.

Fleet Modernisation

Wridgways is undertaking a major fleet modernisation program. The company is investing in excess of \$2 million annually in acquiring new road equipment. New

trucks that feature improved maintenance and service intervals also meet the latest European emissions standards.

Monitoring of Fuel Impacts

Adding to the lower emissions achieved by the latest vehicle technology, fuel purchases are made with suppliers that are actively concerned with environmental impacts and who re-invest in emission reduction technologies and clean energy sources.

Decreasing Vehicle Emissions

Over the past couple of years, Wridgways has reduced the volumes of road traffic over long distances and, consequently, fuel burn by placing inter-capital city containerised freight on the rail network. This has practically eliminated inter-state and inter-city road transport, keeping our air cleaner and the roads safer.

Protecting Waterways

Another aspect of Wridgways operations that impacts upon the environment is surface run-off from operating facilities. We have commenced a program of placing filters within sumps and drains to restrict pollutants entering the waterways.

We have also installed rainwater collection tanks at our Acacia Ridge facility in Queensland. These tanks form part of a closed system where collected water is recycled for truck washing.

Green Supply Chain Management

Wridgways have set a long term goal of driving supply chain environmental management. To expand environmental improvement beyond the immediate workplace, Wridgways plans to partner with suppliers in developing more efficient and positive environmental practices. Effectiive improvements will include product specification and product substitution for minimising negative environment impacts though purchasing criteria.

For more information, contact Brian Clarke, Finance Director, on 03 9837 1700