


Minimising Water Use

SUCCESS STORIES IN MARRICKVILLE

KEY FIGURES ACHIEVED

 water	Water Efficiency in 2001 25-30 L per kg washed
	Water Efficiency in 2010 6.5 L per kg washed
	Water Savings / year (based on current volumes)
	At least 13,000 kL
	Financial Savings / year (2009/10 water utility prices)
	At least \$41,000

Case study

Rasko Linen Services is a commercial laundry based in Marrickville that has taken a leadership role in the laundry industry by minimising waste and investing in water and energy efficiency equipment. Rasko is now a market leader in the commercial laundry industry, and their client base and output has increased dramatically.

Rasko was recognised in Marrickville Council's 2009 Environment Awards for Businesses and Organisations winning the Water Saver Award category for their commitment to reducing their environmental impact.

How did they do it?

Over the last 10 years Rasko Linen Services has made significant investments in water and energy efficient technology.

More efficient equipment has resulted in reduced water and energy use, and operating costs. This strategic investment will improve long term financial sustainability of the business.

Purchased in 2009, the 'Jensen Senking Continuous Batch Washer' controls all aspects of the washing process including optimising the use of recycled water and chemical dosing and reducing the water consumption of the washing process significantly.



Rasko Linen Services laundry in Marrickville

“We improved our water efficiency by more than 280% since 2001, saving at least 13,000 kL per year based on our current laundry volumes”

Michael Doropoulos, Business Owner

Other Sustainability Initiatives?

Not only has Rasko saved water, they have also improved the quality of their waste water, resulting in reduced trade waste charges.

Rasko also minimises waste by offering free fabric bag cleaning for their customers. This has resulted in substantial reductions in their waste output.





Water costs

PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS FOR RISING PRICES

Australian water prices are rising and this is expected to continue. The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW has estimated that water prices are projected to increase by 17 per cent over the next three years, with inflation, connection, sewage and stormwater fees creating additional costs.

The following table estimates the rise in annual water costs for a small water using business.

KEY FIGURES	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Annual water costs (using 1,000 kL per year)	\$1,610	\$1,800	\$1,900

What should we do?

Low to Medium Water Users

- Call a plumber to fix leaks and schedule regular maintenance work for appliances and equipment
- Install water efficient toilets
- Install water saving devices on taps
- Ensure all hot water pipes are insulated
- Replace old inefficient spray rinse valves in restaurants and cafes with the free Smart Rinse Valves from Sydney Water
- Replace and/or retrofit older equipment with newer, efficient, water saving technologies
- Businesses may be eligible for Marrickville Council's Rainwater Tank Incentive Scheme

For more information on any of these actions, contact the *target* team on 9335 2222

Medium and High Water Users

Sydney Water Council Partnership

Marrickville Council has partnered with Sydney Water to perform water assessments for medium to high water using businesses. Businesses using between 10kL and 80kL of water per day are eligible for a comprehensive water assessment to identify potential savings in water use. If the business water bill is between \$7,000 and \$105,000 per year, contact Council's *target* team on 9335 2222 for help.

Sydney Water's Business Customer Services

Businesses that use over 80kL of water per day are eligible for a one-on-one partnership with Sydney Water to reduce water use through tailored advice and support.

