

Davies Furniture

Target Sustainability Programme

About the Company

Davies Furniture are furniture manufacturers who provide furniture to retail stores and interior designers.

The organisation specialises in crafted 'be-spoke' pieces of furniture from their factory in Blenheim Rd, Christchurch.

Introduction to the Project

Davies Furniture joined the Christchurch City Council Target Sustainability Programme in 2007.

The Target Sustainability Programme supports business to reduce waste and to be energy and water efficient.

Davies Furniture implemented a range of projects to reduce their waste sent to landfill and to improve their energy and water efficiency.

Davies Furniture's objective at the time of joining the Target Sustainability Programme was to reduce waste sent to landfill by recycling and becoming more energy and water efficient.

Key Achievements

Reduced waste sent to landfill by 58%. Estimated saving of \$521 per year in collection costs.

Increased recycling to 20 tonnes per year.

Energy savings of approximately 5.4% and \$2,050/year



Davies Furniture © Copyright

Waste Reduction Initiatives

Davies Furniture have achieved the following waste reduction results:

- Waste sent to landfill reduced from an estimated 21 tonnes per year in 2008/2009 to 9 tonnes per year in 2009/2010. This is a 58% reduction in waste sent to landfill. This has saved the organisation an estimated \$521 per year in collection costs.
- No recycling was undertaken by Davies Furniture in 2008/2009. Davies Furniture increased recycling to 20 tonnes per year in 2009/2010.

Davies Furniture implemented the following initiatives to reduce waste sent to landfill:

- Use the Christchurch City Council co-mingled recycling bins for plastics, glass bottles, paper and cans.
- Implemented a plastic wrap recycling collection system.
- Implemented a cardboard recycling collection system.
- Implemented a metal recycling collection system.
- Used the Christchurch Waste Exchange to find a solution for untreated sawdust, such as being used by landscapers.



The central recycling station
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Untreated sawdust collected for reuse
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Energy Efficiency Initiatives

Davies Furniture has implemented three energy efficiency projects:

- Fixed compressed air leaks.
- Switched off the heater in the Docking Area when the outside door is open.
- Replaced incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.

Compressed air leaks were identified and repaired. This will save approximately 4,800 kWh or 2.6% of total electricity consumption. This is an estimated saving of \$1,000/year. Ongoing regular checks for air leaks will be undertaken.

Switching off the heater in the Dock Area when the outside door is open is being done manually by factory staff. This electric heater is 18kW and when the outside door is open this is largely just heating the outside air. Assuming the operation of the heater is reduced by an average of 1 hour per day during winter, this change will save about 4,000 kWh or 1.8% of total electricity consumption. This is an approximate saving of \$700/year.



The heater next to the door leading outside
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Incandescent bulbs are being replaced with compact fluorescent bulbs when existing incandescent bulbs need replacing. So far 30% of the bulbs have been replaced, which will save approximately 2,000 kWh or 1% of total electricity consumption. This is a saving of about \$350/year.

The total savings from the three changes will be approximately \$2,050/year or



Energy efficient lighting used in the show room
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5.4% of the total electricity costs. Additional benefits for the organisation have come from undertaking monitoring of annual energy use. It was noticed from reviewing energy bills that energy use was higher than expected. This led the organisation to realise that one of the kiln motors had burnt out and needed fixing. Davies Furniture are currently going through an insurance claim to get the kiln fixed.

Water Efficiency Initiatives

Davies Furniture improved their water efficiency onsite by installing a flow valve on the continuous flow urinal. The flow valve limits the amount of water used to 2 litres per flush when the flush button is pushed.



Timed flow valve on the urinal
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Summary

Since joining the Target Sustainability Programme, Davies Furniture have implemented a range of projects that have resulted in a reduction of waste sent to landfill and an improvement in energy and water efficiency.

“The Target Sustainability Programme has given us a focus to minimise waste and we are now committed to the ongoing journey of sustainability.” Andrew Davies, Managing Director, Davies Furniture.