

GREENING THE WHARF

This year we were thrilled to win a coveted national Banksia environmental award for leading in sustainability for small to medium businesses.

In 2008, the Company committed to tackle climate change head on and pursue company-wide environmental sustainability measures. In 2011, STC put the finishing touches on the transformation of our historic wharf building into an inspiring demonstration of 21st century sustainability practice.

The scale and comprehensive approach of Greening The Wharf has made STC a global sustainability leader within the performing arts. The program encompassed infrastructure projects, Company-wide behavioural change, environmentally responsible theatre production, community engagement and education. Aided by generous support from a variety of partners, STC has invested in Australia's third-largest solar array, a huge below-pier rainwater harvesting system, extensive energy efficiency measures and best-practice waste management.

PROJECT ADVOCACY

Advocacy is central to Greening The Wharf, and in 2011 the Company continued to demonstrate that the arts can lead on climate change and other important issues of the day. STC was in a privileged position to leverage its large audience numbers and an international reputation to broadly communicate the importance of action around climate change to the precinct, arts companies, businesses, schools, students and audiences. We continued to present The Wentworth Talks, a bi-monthly series of talks and panel discussions at The Wharf led by guest speakers addressing a wide range of topics relating to climate change and the environment.

STC has shown that complex infrastructural projects – such as the solar array and the rainwater harvesting system – can succeed at high-profile heritage sites using Australian innovation. Through an industry workshop CODE GREEN in November, and our case study website, the Company has been able to share its experience and lessons from this exemplar project with our arts peers nationally and internationally, to inspire greener arts practice.

For Greening The Wharf case studies and videos, visit greeningthewharf.com ■

THIS YEAR'S ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2011, our continuous efforts saw STC's environmental footprint shrink on the previous year's results. Town water consumption (7,584kL) fell 14.4%, largely due to the 100,000L capacity rainwater harvesting system coming online in September 2011. Energy consumption (3,262.4GJ) fell 19.8% with the 1,906 panel photovoltaic array fully operational from April, after some initial teething problems. Our greenhouse gas emissions (710.0 tCO₂e - from electricity and gas) fell 21.9% during the year. While our timber purchases (51.6 m³) were up 11.8% on the previous year, materials came from more sustainable sources, whilst total waste generated (220.3t) decreased by 1.5%.

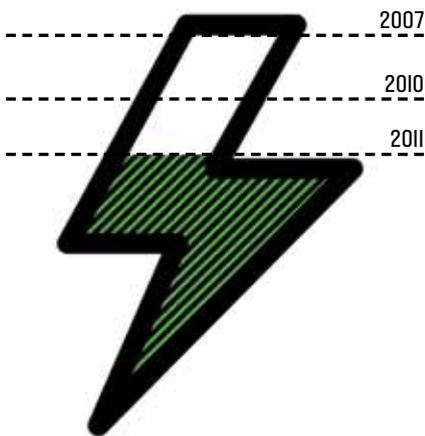
These are significant results for any business, but particularly strong for a performing arts company of our size, in a busy year.

GREENING THE WHARF RESULTS 2007 – 2011

Results compiled by Pangolin Associates

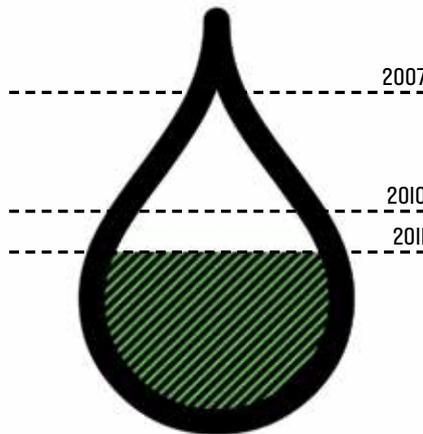
GRID ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION

FELL 36.1% (ENOUGH TO POWER 46 NSW HOMES)



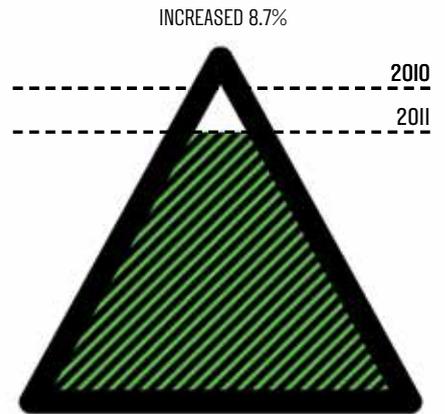
WATER USAGE

FELL 52.1% (SAVING 3.3 OLYMPIC POOLS)



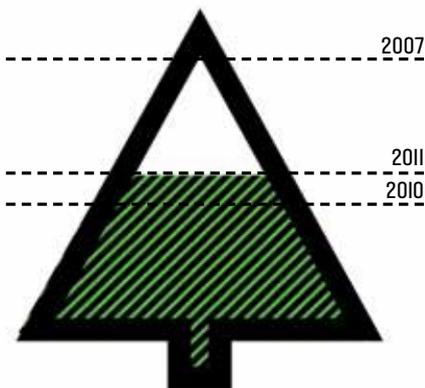
MATERIALS RECYCLED / ENERGY RECOVERED

INCREASED 8.7%



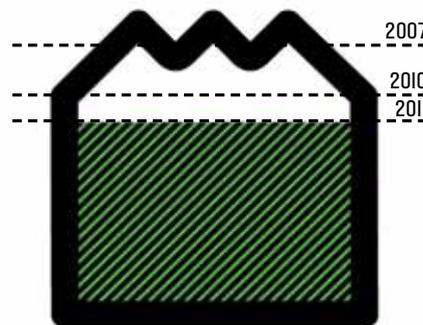
TIMBER PURCHASE

FELL 38.1% (SAVING 16 TREES)



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

FELL 29.4% (EQUIVALENT TO TAKING 76 CARS OFF THE ROAD)



The results are our first glimpse of the long-term return from this major investment. While the full project impact will require a few more years data, we know the solar panels will produce clean power for STC for a generation and together with the rainwater system, they will significantly reduce the financial burden increasing utility costs add to our annual budget. In 2012, with all systems operating for a full 12 months, we anticipate seeing additional reductions across water and energy consumption and our emissions – so long as the sun shines and the rain falls (although preferably not at the same time!)

GREENING THE WHARF IS MADE POSSIBLE BY:

SHI'S FAMILY FOUNDATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NSW

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Office of Environment & Heritage



Trade & Investment Arts NSW

CAMERON AND ILSE O'REILLY
PETER HALL AND LAURA SMITH
DAVID AND CLAIRE PARADICE



Ausgrid
Energy Advisor to Greening The Wharf