

Hippo news

PUBLISHED FOR THE EMPLOYEES & ASSOCIATES
OF VEOLIA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

April 2008

Woodlawn Bioreactor TURNS ON THE POWER

by Danny Conlon

Full operation of the Woodlawn Bioreactor's first generator commenced in February 2008 and is a great achievement for Veolia Environmental Services, with viable 'green' energy now being produced on site. Energy Australia has purchased this energy and it is now being used to power homes throughout NSW.

With the Woodlawn Bioreactor accepting over 1,000,000 tonnes of mixed solid waste from councils and commercial contractors in the Sydney metropolitan area since 2004, the realisation of energy production has occurred in a relatively short period of time.

With increased awareness of the environmental and economic savings to be made by opting for waste to be sent to the Woodlawn Bioreactor as opposed to traditional landfills, there has been a subsequent increase in clients choosing to support this innovative and integral resource recovery project.

The major advantage of the leading edge bioreactor technology, compared with normal landfills, is the maximisation

of gas production, and the capture of said gas through the process of waste decomposition.

In late 2007, an independent study of the site was commissioned by Veolia to assess the methane collection efficiency from the Woodlawn Bioreactor, with the results confirming that better than 92% of all methane produced from the waste in that area was being harvested (for further use).

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Woodlawn Bioreactor Aerial View



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Your Newsletter

Veolia welcomes contributions, including photographs, on issues and events relating to the management of waste and industrial services. Please send material to Renee Fry at VES National Office by emailing renee.fry@veoliaes.com.au

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

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Veolia Environmental Services Acquires ALLIED INDUSTRIAL SERVICES by Richard Berry

Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd has entered into a conditional contract to acquire Allied Industrial Services from Shin Pty Ltd.

The Acquisition of Allied Industrial Services (AIS) will see two of Australia's foremost Industrial Services providers combine resources and deliver extended capabilities and expertise for all current and future clients.

Allied Industrial Services specialise in the provision of industrial cleaning and safety support services to heavy process industries and miscellaneous government entities. With over 250 staff, AIS also holds major Industrial Services contracts with clients such as BlueScope Steel.

The synergies between both companies will enable extension of resources and capabilities across all fields with particular respect to industrial cleaning, high pressure water jetting, vacuum loading, industrial waste management, protective coatings, landcare and facilities maintenance.

The acquisition was established as part of Veolia's strategic approach to the organic growth of its Industrial Services division. There is a good culture fit with both organisations and both are extremely well respected by clients and suppliers alike.



Allied Maintenance Yard, Fairymeadow

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Woodlawn Bioreactor TURNS ON THE POWER

As well as maximising the capture of fuel to generate electricity, capturing methane is very important in protecting the environment. Tony Cade, Veolia Environmental Services Group General Manager, Marketing & Business Development, said the importance of the project and the technology involved could not be overestimated.

"Landfill gases contain methane, which has 21 times the global warming potential of

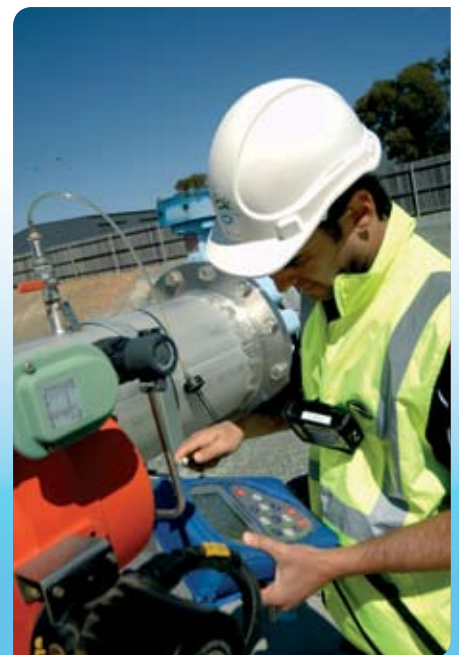


The Woodlawn Bioreactor will power over 20 000 homes

carbon dioxide. The Woodlawn bioreactor captures the harmful greenhouse gas produced and uses it to generate electricity for homes and businesses.

"The Woodlawn Bioreactor is a prime example of Veolia's investment in environmental and economic sustainability. Our focus on limiting the impacts of climate change through the recovery of resources and the subsequent generation of 'green' energy will prove invaluable for Australia's future."

The Woodlawn Bioreactor is one of Australia's premier 'green energy' facilities and provides an exciting opportunity for Veolia Environmental Services to lead the charge in providing alternative energy sources for Australians. The recent achievement of energy production is a very impressive milestone and is testament to the teams at both Woodlawn and Clyde, as well as our clients who continue to support this project.



Monitoring Gas Capture

Veolia Launches International Survey OBSERVATORY OF URBAN LIFESTYLES

On February 12 2008, Veolia Environment published the initial results of its global survey, entitled **Veolia Observatory of Urban Lifestyles**. The survey targeted residents of 14 cities around the world; Alexandria, Los Angeles, Berlin, Bangkok, Chicago, London, Lyon, Mexico, New York, Paris, Prague, Shanghai, Sydney and Tokyo. The survey was designed to compare urban living now and in the future, and demonstrate the needs of citizens through feedback and personal accounts.

As well as providing a tool for measurement and analysis, the survey aims to analyse the "quality of city life". Its indicators are designed to provide a standard assessment of changes in a wide range of areas including use of transportation, perception of public amenities, appreciation of the city's cultural services, interest in staying in the city and confidence in the future. The survey was devised to pinpoint key expectations of citizens, including their views on environmental issues.

Half of the world's population has lived in cities since 2006, and the influx continues: 60% of the world's people will live in cities by 2030 and urban areas will account for almost all demographic growth.



Sydney was one of the 14 cities profiled in the global survey

This growth and the flows it creates bring new challenges for decision makers. Herein lies the biggest task for the next few years: local authorities and regions will need to come up with concrete solutions to tackle growth; these solutions will only be sustainable if they reflect the expectations of citizens and address key challenges such as health and environmental protection.

The survey provides input to tackle these issues and will help Veolia Environment to

advise partners, politicians, local authorities and manufacturers in anticipating and preparing for the future of urban living.

The official launch of the survey results in Sydney was held on April 22nd with CEO and Chairman of Veolia worldwide, Mr Henri Proglio in attendance.

The complete survey and methodology can be found at <http://www.observatoire.veolia.com/en/>

Veolia Australia and New Zealand Releases SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT FOR 2006/07 by Miriam Coupe

The VE Australia Sustainable Development Report has recently been released and is the 3rd publication of its kind to be produced since 2004. The report details the performance of Veolia Environment in Australia and New Zealand with a particular focus on sustainability and provides the most in depth data and case studies to date.

By the very nature of our activities, sustainable development is a core consideration in the fostering of relationships with key clients and stakeholders; it underpins our commitment to research and development, and moreover reflects on whole, our corporate principles.

A key reference for the Veolia Environment family in Australia has been the considerable growth we have experienced in not only revenue but also in employment figures, operations and facilities.

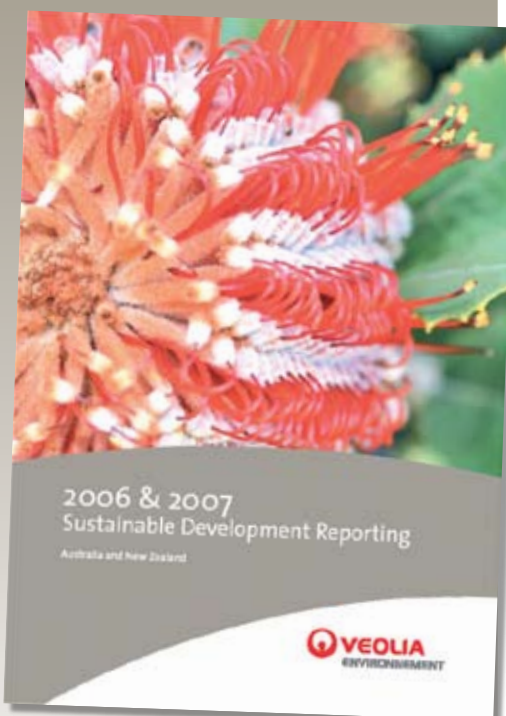
Our operating revenue increased from AUD\$1,158 million in 2004 to AUD\$2,161

million in 2007, positioning Australia and New Zealand as a major business region for the Veolia Environment group.

The report also outlines that for every dollar that Veolia Environment earned in Australia and New Zealand, 449grams of CO₂-e was emitted in 2007. This represents a 43% reduction between 2004 and 2007.

The VE Australia and New Zealand Sustainable Development Reporting tool sets Veolia apart from other environmental businesses, showcasing an unsurpassed commitment to environmental and economic sustainability across the board. The continual improvements being made across water, waste, transport and energy management are evidence of such commitment and the team are looking to achieve further advancements in 2008.

The SD Reporting will be available online at www.veoliaes.com.au



Veolia Environment Australia SD Reporting 2006/07

SEQUOIA 2007 Creating the future of Veolia Environment together Clare Moran

In late 2007, Sequoia, Veolia Environment's global employee stock purchase plan, was launched for employees of VE in Australia for the first time. The purpose of the program is to engage employees to invest in their company and inevitably contribute to the overall success and future prosperity of Veolia.

The interest in this project saw 10% of VES employees subscribed to the offer with investments ranging from one share to over three hundred.

Expanding employee stockholding is a strategic objective for Veolia. In addition to giving workers a greater stake in the company's performances, Veolia also hopes that the plan will help to retain employees and make them a priority stockholder in the company.

Due to the global success of Sequoia, it is hoped that there will be secondary roll out of the plan in 2008 for Australian employees.

Further information will be distributed to staff over the coming months.

Binary Industries Chemical Fire Clean-Up

by Joanne Salmon



Loading solid waste using covered conveyor

Queensland's Remediation Services unit, with support from the Liquid Collection division recently undertook a large scale clean up at the former Binary Industries site at Narangba, north of Brisbane.

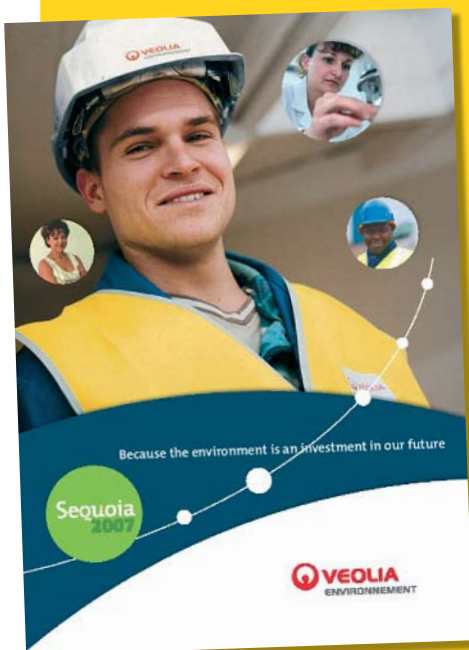
In August 2005, a large fire broke out at the Binary herbicide manufacturing plant, resulting in building destruction and contamination of the surrounding area. Contaminants of concern included herbicides such as 2,4-D, Glyphosate and Chorypyrifos, as well as heavy metals such as Copper, Chromium and Arsenic.

Whilst contaminated soil from adjacent areas to the site had been excavated and sent to Veolia's Ti Tree BioEnergy facility, little had been done to remediate the actual site of the fire, with large volumes of hazardous waste contained inside the remaining building site.

With the site located in close proximity to residential areas, extra precautions were taken to avoid the release of noxious odours during the load out of the solid waste, including the use of a covered conveyor system.

Under constant surveillance by Qld EPA and local community stakeholders; close to 1500 tonnes of highly contaminated solid waste was removed and delivered to an isolated area of the Ti Tree facility; with plans to exhume and treat the material at an appropriate date.

Liquid waste removed from site consisted of some 570,000 litres of contaminated stormwater. Of this, 363,000 litres of contaminated water, generated during fire-fighting activities, was shipped to Melbourne for disposal at Geocycle; while approximately 36,000 litres of solvents, washings and concentrated herbicides in drums were transported to a nearby hazardous waste processing facility.



Sequoia is rolled out in Australia

West Gate Bridge Resurfacing Works

by John Baranauskas

In late 2007, Veolia Environmental Services was engaged by Parkinson Asphalt, on behalf of VicRoads to complete surface preparation works on the Westgate Bridge.

The scope of the work carried out included Ultra High Pressure Water Blasting to 35,000PSI to remove residual epoxy tackcoat, which is used to bond the asphalt to the steel decking. The work was carried out as part of an annual project to maintain the future integrity and capability of the bridge.

The Veolia team had to adhere to a very critical time line for completion so as to minimise disruption to the thousands of commuters that use the bridge on a daily basis. Veolia Environmental Services successfully completed works within Parkinson Asphalts expectations.

Working in difficult conditions, including 40 degree heat, the Veolia team also provided technical hydroblasting solutions, water recycling and waste water treatment to ensure zero impact to the environment.



West Gate Bridge works

Development of Heavy Metal Fixation Technology

by Assoc. Professor Damian Gore (Macquarie University) & John Brennan VES Tasmania

During 2003/04, Veolia Environmental Services (VES) helped the Australian Antarctic Division remediate a landfill at Casey Station in Antarctica.

Approximately 1000 tonnes of contaminated material was shipped to Hobart, where it was chemically remediated and placed in a secure landfill. However, whilst this was a considerable level of waste collected, additional contaminated material remains in the wilderness of Antarctica; a legacy of past human activity.

VES and existing partner; The Australian Antarctic Division joined with new partners PANalytical-Spectris, Macquarie University and the Particulate Fluids Processing Centre at the University of Melbourne, in a new project to extend Veolia's heavy metals chemical fixation technique so that it can be used 'in-situ' in freezing ground.

This process has the advantage that the contaminated material does not have to be excavated, treated in mixing equipment and then re-buried. Says Macquarie University's Damian Gore: "It's not just Antarctica where this technology can help. Every small country town has an unconfined landfill, and most are leaching heavy metals". "If we can treat each of those landfills in the ground, without the need for excavation, then the treatment would be affordable and many more sites would be treated."

Dan Stangroom, National Remediation Manager for VES, adds: "this opens up new markets for both VES and PANalytical



Ready for work at an arsenic contaminated site (L-R): Professor Geoff Stevens (University of Melbourne), Dr Ian Snape (Antarctic Division), Erika Heiden (MEnvSc student, Macquarie University) and John Brennan (VES Tasmania).



In more relaxed surroundings (L-R): Amy Rocavert (MPhil student, Macquarie University), Dr Gary Pritchard (General Manager, PANalytical-Spectris, Australia), Associate Professor Damian Gore (Macquarie University), Erla Hafsteinsdottir (MPhil student, Macquarie University), Dr Duanne White (Macquarie University).

and creates a win-win situation for both business and the environment".

The project, funded jointly by PANalytical, Veolia and the Australian Government via the prestigious Australian Research Council scheme, has a three year lifetime; starting in late 2007. Over the duration of the project, the team will develop new chemical fixation technology in the laboratory and then apply it to contaminated sites in Antarctica and possibly the Arctic.

THERE'S \$\$\$ IN WASTE, IF YOU LOOK

by Hartley Henderson – As published in *Manufacturer's Monthly* March 2008 Edition

Effective waste management and recycling not only has benefits for the environment, but can also improve the bottom line, as more manufacturing companies are finding.

Integrated waste management programs are being introduced, and new technologies are being developed and implemented across an extensive range of waste materials in a wide variety of industries.

Richard O'Keefe from Veolia Environmental Services says an increasing number of manufacturing companies are looking to minimise waste and maximise recycling through the adoption of streamlined waste management systems.

"External factors including increasing waste levies for traditional land filling, as well as transportation and operational costs, have resulted in companies taking to source separating waste," O'Keefe told *Manufacturers' Monthly*.

"Manufacturers are also able to utilise several waste management and recycling technologies on-site such as waste compaction systems to reduce waste volumes, whilst industrial technologies also exist for the management of hazardous and liquid waste collection and disposal.

"Various innovative waste technologies are now available, centred on increased resource recovery including Natural Recovery Systems which involve an in-vessel composting facility, Earthpower that utilises food waste to generate energy, bioreactor facilities, and materials recovery facilities to reclaim materials such as paper, glass, plastics and metals.



EarthPower; Food to Energy Facility

"Both within Australia and globally, we have worked with a range of companies in various industry sectors to develop customised waste management and recycling systems.

"This is aimed at reducing waste generation on-site and implementing split waste stream disposal systems with a view to increasing recycling and resource recovery levels.

"These companies are not only doing it for environmental reasons, but also because it makes good bottom line sense to avoid waste," O'Keefe said.

"Across the electronics and computing sectors for example we have seen impressive results since the implementation of the National E-Waste Recycling Scheme."

O'Keefe says the take-up rate by manufacturers of this recycling service has significantly grown on a national basis. "Within the first two years of operation of the scheme some four million kilograms of electronic waste was recycled, the vast majority of which came directly from the manufacturers of the products.



E-Waste Collection

"Electronic waste, which includes toxic materials such as lead, mercury, and phosphorous is being sent to landfill at three times the rate of other general or municipal waste and generates damaging greenhouse gases, as well as significant health risks. At present there is no legislation which prevents e-waste from being sent to traditional landfill."

"Recently Veolia also introduced an innovative technological solution for the recycling of fluorescent tubing via a pre-paid recycling service called RecyclePak.

"This enables manufacturers to ensure that their fluorescent lighting is processed at a licensed recycling facility. All materials within a fluorescent lamp can be recycled, including mercury, glass, aluminium and the phosphorous powder."

O'Keefe says the company also offers complete on-site support and overall facilities management where Veolia personnel are responsible for quality control to ensure that the waste system is being correctly used by the client in order to deliver maximum results.

"The provision of such a holistic approach allows clients to focus on their core business while we provide risk reduction in relation to environmental, compliance and IR issues," he added.



RecyclePak

Waste Minimisation

Government policies and regulations may encourage companies to minimise waste and pollution, but as Wastech Engineering spokesman, Alan Barclay, told *Manufacturers' Monthly*, market demands tend to provide greater incentives for adopting environmentally responsible practices.

As one of the leading Australian suppliers of waste disposal and recycling equipment, Wastech constantly researches these changing market forces and offers a comprehensive consulting service to clients to help them minimise their waste costs.

Barclay claims companies stand to make savings through effectively managing the waste they produce.

"If companies segregate at the point of generation, there's more chance that items such as plastic including Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) and cardboard will be dealt with as a commodity that can now be recycled," he said.

"Cardboard and plastic can still account for significant proportions of the general waste stream within manufacturing sites.

"The trick is to get these items out of this stream and into a compacted payload that is cost effective to transport and attracts the possibility of rebates from those companies collecting this recyclable material."

According to Barclay some manufacturing sites have been able to save up to \$30,000 a year through this practice.

"Even if companies are already participating in a recycling program, if you can reduce the volumes, you stand a better chance of getting a rebate for the cardboard or plastic instead of having to pay a penalty to have it moved off site.

"For any company, an efficient waste and recycling program can yield significant outcomes when considering its 'triple bottom line' of economic, environmental and social performance," Barclay said.

“TAKING IT” to the Race Track in Adelaide!

by Joanne Disher



The Veolia team get close to the action

The Adelaide Clipsal 500 is an annual touring car event held in the east end of Adelaide on a shortened version of the former Australian grand prix track.

Each year the event attracts over 200,000 spectators from Adelaide, interstate and overseas and 2008 certainly did not disappoint with 291,400 people in attendance.

The Adelaide team and valued clients experienced 4 days of extreme action including touring car practice, qualifying, support racing and the main 500km V8 Super Car event.

Importantly, Veolia Environmental Services through Cleanevent, were the exclusive service provider for the waste management of general rubbish and recycling for the Adelaide Clipsal 500 Event.

On site, Veolia's presence included: static compactors, bulk bins, front lift and liquid trucks and in excess of 80 front lift and 250 wheelie bins.

This year, the team from Veolia were also delighted to entertain representatives from (but not limited to) National Jet, Badge Constructions, Built Environs, Hardy Wine Company, ETSA, United Water, Kennett Constructions, Mossop Group, Simsmetal, Great Southern Railway, Hills Industries, Santos, Westfields, Electrolux, Intercast and Forge, City of Whyalla, Smorgon Steel Recycling, Bluescope Steel, VISY, Hardy Wine Company, Menzies, Dalriada Meats and Southern Cross Care.



Going full throttle on race day

Switch Off and Save

by Miriam Coupe

In an effort to reduce Veolia Environmental Services greenhouse gas emissions, the “Switch off and Save” campaign was launched in late 2007.

The campaign is aimed at reminding Veolia staff to be vigilant when leaving the office or workspace to ensure they are not wasting electricity by leaving on appliances such as computers and mobile phone chargers unnecessarily.

Here are some tips for saving energy in the office:

- Turn off lights at the end of the day
- Set printers and photocopiers to power save mode
- Minimise unnecessary printing
- Turn off your computer when not in use

Hopefully you've noticed our 'Switch Off' stickers around the office. Congratulations to Robin Smith from our NSW depot who developed the campaign for Veolia Environmental Services.

If you require extra stickers or assistance, please contact Miriam Coupe at National Office.

Did you know...?

- A desktop computer used all day releases over 600 kilograms of greenhouse gas to the atmosphere annually.
- Commercial buildings use around a third of all electricity used in cities across Australia
- Appliances left on standby use an average of 807 kWh of electricity per year.



Switch Off and Save reminders are widespread throughout Veolia's operations

Tasmania's MRF Makeover

by Philip Wise

Tasmania is in the process of upgrading both the Hobart and Launceston Materials Recovery Facilities.

During January 2008, both facilities had new paper balers and feed conveyors installed. The baler installed in Hobart has an increased capacity to process between 15 to 17 tonnes of paper and cardboard per hour. The addition of improved equipment such as this has increased the productivity of the facility. The ongoing challenge is to subsequently increase the level of product received on site to ensure that the new equipment is fully maximised.

Further developments will see the installation of new container-sorting line equipment including trommels, disc screens, bounce conveyors, air separators and metal separators.

The upgrades of both the Hobart and Launceston facilities have been prompted by increased volumes of recyclable materials within the marketplace, largely due to councils moving to commingled collections of recyclables.

The upgrade of both facilities was also born out of Veolia's recognition for the need to maintain premium standards whilst also ensuring the highest safety standards for all employees.

Baler installed at the Hobart MRF



Veolia Environmental Services Website gets 'working' for HR

by Clare Moran and Renee Fry

In April 2007, the new Veolia Environmental Services corporate website was launched. The key reasons for the updated site were to revise content and also align to the global VES brand.

One of the key realisations when updating the website was to develop a tangible Careers and Employment section which would be used to engage potential employees, whilst also providing an opportunity to showcase Veolia's long term goal of becoming an employer of choice.

In October 2007, the HR and Marketing departments launched the updated careers section. Access to this information portal will provide state teams with a greater scope for advertisement of positions available, draw attention to employment achievements including onsite education and training, whilst also providing information on Veolia's commitment to its staff.

Since October 2007 the Careers section of the VES website has experienced a 65% growth in visitation, and it is expected that this will continue to increase within the immediate future.

For further information visit www.veoliaes.com.au/careers

New Careers Section



Spreading it Around

by John Brennan

For over 12 years, Veolia has been working on organic materials recovery projects. However it has only been within recent years that Veolia has seen a shift in the awareness of the value of organic waste streams for land improvement, particularly poor soils.

Whilst there has always been support for 'land spreading' of organic materials, actual take up rates have been diminished by the availability of cheaper options including traditional land filling and sewage treatment. Apart from containing valuable minerals

and nutrients, waste materials such as sewage sludge and food processing residues offer benefits including water content and organic material which can be successfully used to improve soil and its water holding capacity.

Recently Veolia has been working with Cadbury to find a re-use option for a liquid waste called DAF. Having located a farmer who was prepared, subject to relevant permits and protocols, to 'land spread' the DAF material onto marginal pasture land, Veolia has been able to deliver impressive results. With 95% of the material consisting of water, the DAF is now referred to as DAFert which recognises its potential fertiliser benefits as a resource and not simply a waste product.

Enviro Conference by Renee Fry

The 2008 Australian Enviro Convention will be held 5-7th May, at the Melbourne Convention Centre. The bi-annual convention is Australia's leading environment and sustainability event and is set to provide a new forum for leaders and practitioners working in manufacturing, government, service industries and planners.

The convention is presented by the Waste Management Association of Australia and the Australian Water Association and will deliver 14 international guest speakers in the fields of energy and climate, environmental innovation, water and waste, facilitating change, resource recovery and sustainable cities.

Veolia Environment is a gold sponsor of the event and will showcase our capabilities across all four divisions; Water, Energy, Transport and Waste.

Veolia will also be hosting a cocktail event for clients and stakeholders on Tuesday 6th May, 3-4pm at the Veolia Environment Booth. If you are interested in attending this function please contact renee.fry@veolia.com.au

To register for the conference or for further information visit www.enviroconvention.com.au

Enviro 2006 Convention



User Acceptance Testing for PTS by Malcolm Inglis

In October 2007 a number of drivers, supervisors and managers from the waste business throughout the country met at National Office in Pyrmont to undertake User Acceptance Testing for the Paperless Trucks System (PTS). Feedback from the Testing has now been integrated into the PTS.

The following people successfully completed the UAT testing for PTS;

- Greg Mcallister – QLD
- Gary Hopper – NSW
- Pat Bone – SA
- Ray Boynton – QLD
- Scott Gallant – NSW
- John Bajzelj – TAS
- Kelvin Wiggins – TAS
- Dave Playford – VIC
- Robert Rae – NSW
- Clive Shorey – VIC
- Geoff Penney – TAS
- Darren Higgins – TAS
- Peter Papendorf – NSW
- Justin Savagev – QLD
- Craig Johnstone – VIC
- Simon Allam – NSW
- Tristram McKay – NSW
- Linda Ingham – VIC

Thanks to all involved for your contribution to the future of Veolia's business.

2007 Victorian Employee of the Year Awards by Kristy Smallwood

The Victorian team chose Hawaii as the destination to host their 2007 end of year Christmas celebration. With the South Melbourne depot transformed into a Maui-esque tropical oasis, the team celebrated the culmination of a successful year by announcing the recipients of the Victorian Employee of the Year Awards.

The winners were:

- Shepparton – Best Business Unit
- Brooklyn Liquid Treatment Plant – Sustainability & Environment Award
- Dale Brabham from Group Services – Occupational Health & Safety Award

- Gavin Wilson from the Shepparton Depot – Field Employee Award
- Alan McDonald, Keysborough CSC Manager – Customer Focus Award
- Levent Osman, South Melbourne's Sales Manager – Staff Employee Award
- Ray Spokas our Engineering Manager – Employee of the Year 2007

Congratulations to all the award winners for the outstanding commitment they have shown to the company.

Clean Up Australia Day 2008

by Renee Fry



Ian Kiernan and kids



Dr Brendan Nelson, Ian Kiernan and Mr Barry O'Farrell



Junior Helper in Queensland



The feast

Sunday March 2nd marked the 19th annual Clean Up Australia Day and Veolia Environment was on board once again as a Major Sponsor.

Teams from all over Australia got their hands dirty and cleaned parks, waterways, schools and beaches in the hopes of beautifying their local areas and raising awareness of the threats that illegally dumped rubbish pose to the environment. With over 600 Veolia volunteers participating nationally, this year's event was the most successful to date.

The focus of this year's campaign was the reduction in plastics that are being discarded incorrectly, and moreover the need for Australian's to reduce the amount of plastic bottles they purchase.

According to Clean Up Australia; it is estimated that there are over 13,000 pieces of plastic on every square kilometre of the ocean surface. Plastic kills more than a million seabirds and more than 100,000 marine mammals such as whales, dolphins and seals every year.

Ian Kiernan, founder of Clean Up Australia says as well as responsibly disposing of their rubbish – preferably in recycling bins – Australians can help by simply reducing the number of plastic bottles they buy.

The focus of this year's campaign was the reduction in plastics that are being discarded incorrectly, and moreover the need for Australian's to reduce the amount of plastic bottles they purchase.

“Using refillable water and drink bottles is a simple and effective way to help save the environment, not to mention money.”

With over 800 000 volunteers turning out this year and collecting more than 7000 tonnes of rubbish, Clean Up Australia Day continues to be Australia's leading community based environmental event.

Veolia has been a major sponsor of the event since 2000. The Clean Up Campaign which also consists of Clean Up Schools Day and Business Clean Up Day, is designed to engage the community and businesses to play a part in the future sustainability of Australia's environment.

Tony Cade, Veolia Environmental Services Group General Manager, Marketing and Business Development commented “Veolia's association with Clean Up Australia Day is one

which we are proud of. Veolia believes in working closely with the communities, within which we operate to foster sustainability and ownership of environmental preservation. Clean Up Australia Day provides Australians with the opportunity to get involved and make a difference”.

New South Wales

The major Veolia site in NSW was held at Bicentennial Park, West Pymble and with over 60 volunteers turning out on the day, the event was a great success.

Joined by Dr. Brendan Nelson; Federal Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Barry O'Farrell; State Leader for the Opposition, the teams from Veolia Environmental Services, Veolia Water and Veolia Energy were on a mission – to ensure that the parklands and waterways were clear of rubbish and that the area was returned to a pristine condition.

The site was also one of the only locations chosen in Australia to trial a specific recyclables collection bag. The trial was a great success with volunteers sorting as they went to ensure the correct disposal of all the waste they collected. Some of the more unusual pieces of waste collected included a shopping trolley, metal bin and a discarded trailer.

Ian Kiernan supported volunteers by arriving on site just in time to grab a bacon and egg roll and thank Veolia staff and local

volunteers for their ongoing support of Clean Up Australia Day and all their hard work.

Dr Nelson also commented “Ian Kiernan and his team at Clean Up Australia have done a terrific job in inspiring everyday Aussies to get out there and help them with the clean up,”

As part of the day, Vanessa Seaton, NSW Marketing Manager and driver Colin Purdy joined forces with the NSW Police Rescue team and Park Rangers from the Kuringai Chase National Park to remove several heavy duty truck tyres from the Hawkesbury River at Pittwater. The police rescue helicopter picked the tyres up out of the river and disposed of them in a Veolia bulk bin. The tyres were then taken to a specialised recycling facility.

Teams from Newcastle also turned out to assist their local councils with cleaning up various local areas.

Queensland

The Queensland team headed out again this year with 45 participants in Brisbane, where the official Veolia Clean Up Site was held at Simpsons Playground, Graceville.

The team was out in full force and ready to get stuck into removing rubbish and ensuring that the playground was clean for all the local families who frequent the area. The day ended with a good old-fashioned BBQ and a well-earned drink.

A team of 6 from Gladstone also took part in the day!

Victoria

Veolia's Victorian Clean Up Australia day saw around 50 participants come together to help clean up the Sandringham Yacht Club and surrounding coastal areas.

The numbers were slightly down on last year; however the day still boasted a good sense of community and family spirit.

The clean up kicked off at 10am with a range of all ages donning a pair of gloves to do their bit for the Australian environment.

Sent out in different directions the volunteers managed to cover a fairly large region recovering all types of illegally dumped rubbish including bottles, cans, food packaging and even a toilet seat!

Clean Up Australia Day 2008 Gallery



Brisbane Team at Simpsons Playground



Veolia helped out NSW Police Rescue on the day



Gladstone group was small but very effective!



Simon Tori gets up close and personal with a Hippo



The Geraghty boys show how it's done



The Vic team after the big clean up!



Turfing the trailer



Unloading the discarded tyres from Pittwater



The NSW team are all smiles

Cities around the World Update by Shannon Beare

Cities around the World, Veolia Environments global Children's Campaign has started very successfully in both Australia & New Zealand. Over 5,000 children have registered to participate in the 2008 campaign across both countries, which is focused around creating sustainable cities.

In 2008, children from 30 countries will give their city the opportunity to tell its tale. Children will have to find out more about their city, discover its dreams & desires and express what its citizens could do to ensure it keeps living in harmony with the earth.

The panel of judges will meet in late April to identify one class winner from both Australia & New Zealand.

Children across 30 countries are preparing their entries for the competition



2007 Meneré's BMW Cup by Kristy Smallwood

On Friday the 7th of December some of Veolia's Business Development Team participated in Meneré's BMW Cup on Port Phillip Bay.

This highly anticipated annual yachting event, held at the Sandringham Yacht Club provided Veolia with an excellent networking opportunity and a fun day out on the Bay.

The philosophy of the race is distinctly different from most others, with the emphasis on participation rather than intense competition.

Veolia in conjunction with Jacobs Creek secured 3rd place on their vessel "Outrageous". Krystal Weir, a Veolia sponsored athlete and 2008 Olympic Games competitor was on board to help secure our place and coach us on our tacking and jibing techniques, done more with panic than skill.



Veolia and Jacobs Creek crew

Down came the rain by Angela Horner



Redistributing bins

In February 2008, Mackay in north Queensland was hit with torrential rain and suffered its worst flood in 90 years with a total of 624mm of water dumped within a 10 hour period.

A wave of waist-high water swept through up to 2000 homes leaving the rooftop as the only refuge for some residents. With close to 2000 calls made to Emergency Services in a 24 hr period, the city was braced for a big clean up effort.

Veolia Environmental Services holds the domestic waste contract for the city and also owns and operates a Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF) within Mackay. Once the floods had begun to subside, Stephen Harper and his crew were thrown into overdrive working with the council to restore waste collection services throughout the city.

During this time staff in Mackay, in particular Stephen worked tirelessly for up to 15 hours per day to ensure that residents had been reallocated their waste receptacles and that a sense of normality had been restored to the affected areas. Veolia's presence and commitment to the community in a time of widespread devastation was testament to the dedication of the Mackay team, for which they are to be congratulated.

Job well done Mackay.



Servicing Bunnings was a challenge

2007 Australian Corporate Games by Kristy Smallwood

The Victorian corporate games were held in November 2007 and brave men and women from the Veolia team headed to Albert Park to defend their honour.

Veolia supported a great team spirit; entering 4 teams across the sports of netball, football, soccer and cricket, whilst single entrants also competed in the badminton, karting, & running events.

The women's netball team were defeated in all three games. Despite brilliant efforts from Melissa Howell in wing attack, Brooke Cracknell in centre and the towering Mandy Walter in goal defence, our best efforts on the day were simply just not good enough. In hindsight amateurs Kristy Smallwood and Cherie Hansell were probably best left off court!

The men's modified Australian Rules Football team put up a spirited fight but failed to make it through to the preliminary rounds. Aply led by ruckman Nat Bryant and rover Leigh Morse, the boys had a slow start to their first match but fought back to draw the game, and then went on to take the 2nd game easily. Game 3 started off promising with VES maintaining the lead throughout the majority of the game until they fell in



Girls Netball Team

a heap towards the end with no subs to replace Nat who hobbled off field after a calf injury flared up; a good effort nonetheless!

The men's cricket team, disadvantaged by some late withdrawals, were destroyed in the first game, however gallant in defeat, the boys rallied for the remaining games. Games 2 and 3 were won but the team missed out on going to the finals due to for and against points. A special mention goes out to Michael Mellor (AKA "White Lightning") who swallowed more fly's than he got wickets and on one occasion nearly choked to death.

As for the men's soccer team, they saw more injuries than they did results. Rear lift driver

Kem had cramps in both legs and had to be carried off field. Ralph did a hammy and was made to exit the team despite being adamant that he was ok to carry on. Glenn McCarten had a close call when he almost knocked one of the oppositions head clean off with a sweeping mid air kick, thankfully hitting nothing but air. All in all there were no goals and no wins for the men's soccer team, the closest they came to scoring was a header by Matt Stanelos from the 6 yard line however even that failed to connect, hitting the post instead.

We look forward to competing again this year, perhaps with a little more training under our belts!



Fellas Football Team

NEWS FROM VEOLIA IN AUSTRALIA

Veolia Transport experiences unprecedented patronage growth in Australasia in 2007 by Kate Declerq

Veolia Transport Australasia has experienced unprecedented patronage growth across Australia and New Zealand, evidence of its quality transport services. As demand increases, Veolia Transport remains responsive, delivering better services and more of them across all operating arms in this region.

In Melbourne, rail operator Connex achieved patronage increases of 12% bringing the total passenger journeys for 2007 to 187 million. This continues a remarkable trend in this city, topping off a 60% increase in patronage since 1999 (30% of which occurred in the last three years alone).

Veolia Transport Sydney's light rail system showed positive moves in 2007, with increased patronage of 11%.

With the acquisition of new bus company, Transit First, Veolia Transport New South Wales significantly increased the size of its operations, and grew its existing customer base by more

than 60%, bringing patronage for 2007 to 11 million passenger trips.

Following its massive 2004-05 patronage growth, Veolia Transport Brisbane again experienced exceptional uptake of its bus services, with a 21% increase in patronage of its route service.

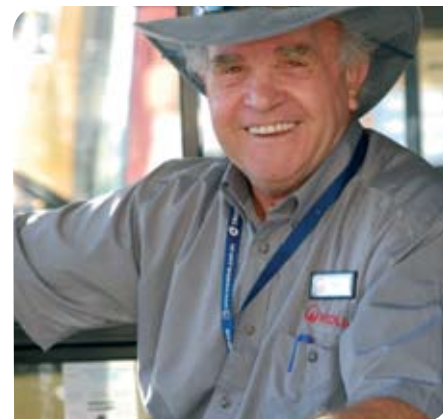
Acquisition of two new bus companies in January 2007 – Brookers Bus and Coach Service and Moreton Bay Coaches – was also a significant coup for VT Brisbane in enhancing its coach servicing.

A 13% increase in patronage of Veolia Transport Perth (operating as Southern Coast Transit) saw total passenger journeys hit 17 million during the year 2007.

Southern Coast Transit was buoyed by the acquisition of South West Coach Lines in November 2007. In acquiring the business, Southern Coast Transit has added 70 new buses, three depots and 100 employees to its

business, enhancing operations and facilitating 17 million annual passenger journeys.

It's an exciting time for public transport in the Australasian region and Veolia Transport relishes the opportunity to deliver quality services to customers well into the future.



Veolia Transport in Australia

Staff Movements

VICTORIA

Mandy Walters



We would like to make a belated welcome to Mandy Walters, who joined VES in October last year after completing her degree in Business Management, majoring in Human Resources.

Mandy will be working within the Group Services department, and will be responsible for improving HR practices and procedures and is looking forward to working with you all into the future.

Alan Pitts



VES Victoria would like to welcome to the team our new State Equipment and Maintenance Manager, Alan Pitts.

Alan has recently made the move back to Victoria after living in far north Queensland, working on a contract for a local council.

Prior to that, Alan was the workshop and equipment manager for Cleanaway in the Northern Territory. Alan will be based out of our Keysborough depot and will oversee the running of all workshops and equipment across the Victorian business. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge in this field, dating back to his earlier days as a motor mechanic and later running his own auto repairs business. We wish him all the best in his new role at Veolia.

Kristy Smallwood



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Kristy Smallwood to the Business Development team based out of the South Melbourne Office. Kristy started with Veolia in November 2007 and will be involved in tender preparation and marketing activities for the Victorian business.

Kristy comes from an accounting background where she previously held the position of cash management/treasury banker for a large reinsurance firm in London, UK.

Kristy gave us a scare by taking on a tram in her little Hyundai (unsuccessfully) shortly after joining us, so we have now locked away all the keys to the company vehicles and wish her every success in her safer pursuits in the office.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Betty Stamatelopoulos



Betty joined our Refractories team at Veolia's SA office in October last year. She has assumed the role of Accounts Assistant with her major duties consisting of payroll & accounts payable. Having recently completed her Certificate III in Financial Services and looking to refocus her career in the direction of accounting / administration, Betty gladly accepted the challenge of this role. She is currently pursuing Certificate IV in Financial Services.

Prior to joining us, Betty has enjoyed a number of accounts/admin based roles in diverse industries. This experience and her qualifications will stand her in good stead for the challenges that lie ahead in her role.

NATIONAL OFFICE

Sandra Narezzi



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Sandra Narezzi as NSW and National Office Fitness and Wellbeing Manager.

Veolia's 'Fitness for Work' program aims at providing a safe work environment for all our employees and contractors and encompasses personal well-being so as to improve work performance and safety.

As such, Sandra will provide employees with:

- Health assessments to identify health risks, including posture and musculoskeletal assessments.
- Nutrition advice and surveys to determine and improve employee health.
- Health and wellbeing programs including exercise classes such as boxercise, core/ab's, strength and stretching/relaxation.
- Health resources to help employees make better lifestyle choices.
- Seminars, team building activities and challenges.

Sandra has been in the Fitness Industry for 10 years, working in various gyms in both Sydney and London and was most recently the Fitness Manager for LivingWell HealthClub Hilton Sydney. Sandra has also run her own personal training business and has experience as an exercise physiologist as well as having achieved a Bachelor in Exercise and Sport Science.

New Faces in NSW Resource Recovery

by Danny Conlon

Margaret Wong



We would like to welcome Margaret Wong who joined us in November 2007 as the National Hippo Station Administrator based in Pyrmont.

Margaret has a number of years experience in Administration. Prior to joining us Margaret was an Administrative Officer at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Anne Frederic



We would like to welcome Anne Frederic who joined us in January in Pyrmont. Anne will be assisting us for the next 12 months on various environmental projects such as sustainable development, energy efficiency and GH emissions.

Anne is a graduate from France. She has a degree in Engineering and a master's degree in Environmental Management and Sustainability from the University of Technology of Troyes.

The NSW Solid Waste Resource Recovery division has undergone a number of changes over the last few months with the aim to consolidate the division whilst also delivering challenging roles for the whole team.

- Vanessa Moore takes on the role of Manager – Solid Waste Class 2 Transfer Facilities. Vanessa will assume responsibility for all activities associated with the operational, financial, safety and environmental performance of both the Port Botany and Greenacre Transfer Facilities. Over the past 4 years Vanessa has successfully managed the New Line Road Landfill site through challenging times.
- Tony Favell will take on the new role of Manager - Woodlawn Eco Precinct. In his new role Tony assumes overall responsibility for the Pylara Agricultural Business, together with the future development of key projects including the Woodlawn windfarm and WASP facility. Tony will also manage the activities of Tri Origin Minerals, and will be responsible for ensuring the operational interests of the Woodlawn business whilst potentially co-existing with an operational mine site. Tony will remain Veolia's principle representative to Goulburn/Mulwree Shire Council and most importantly will continue to develop and advise the Woodlawn management team into the future.
- Justin Houghton assumes the role of Manager – Woodlawn Bioreactor. In his new role Justin assumes responsibility for the management of all activities associated with the operational, financial, safety and environmental performance of the Woodlawn Site. Justin has spent the previous 2 years as Woodlawn Environmental Manager also managing the site safety systems and community relations.
- Henry Gundry assumes the role of Manager – Woodlawn Operations and Environment. In his new role Henry will take on the responsibilities of Woodlawn Environmental Manager and also take responsibility for the day to day operational performance of the Woodlawn Site. Henry joined the Veolia team at Woodlawn just over 12 months ago supporting Justin Houghton in the environmental management of the Woodlawn site. Henry will ensure both the operational and environmental performance at Woodlawn continues to be first class.
- Bob Crotty joined the VES team in October last year; Bob comes to us with a wealth of experience in Landfill Management after a number of years Managing WSN's Eastern Creek Landfill Facility. Bob will assist Vanessa in her new role with his primary focus however, being future developments at the Horsley Park Waste Management Facility. We are in the process of excavating the next cells at Horsley Park whilst preparing for the installation and commissioning of the new gas collection infrastructure, both of which will require considerable resources. I look forward to Bob's continued input across the business and thank him for what has been a challenging start to the role.

The Woodlawn team has also achieved significant goals in the areas of research and development. After almost 12 months of research and ongoing field trials, the team has developed a system capable of treating leachate contaminated with acid mine drainage. The system significantly improves the Bioreactors current gas generation capabilities, whilst improving overall safety of the site by enabling us to remove high volumes of contaminated leachate with the potential to produce Hydrogen Sulphide.

Steve Lawrence, Manager of the Clyde Transfer Terminal, has set the standard within the division in terms of safety management systems. Steve's implementation of the 'front gate' contractor management system whilst maintaining strict disciplines regarding employee safety, has enabled the Clyde site to achieve greater than 877 days without a lost time injury.

2008 poses significant and exciting challenges for the new management team, not the least of which will be to surpass the achievements of 2007. Both The Clyde/Woodlawn and Horsley Park facilities achieved record volumes and EBIT in 2007, whilst the Port Botany and Greenacre Transfer facilities are yet to reach their potential.



Clyde Transfer Terminal



Port Botany Transfer Facility

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Sponsorship by Tony Cade

Veolia Environmental Services and Veolia Water Solutions and Technology have joined together to sponsor the Westpac Rescue Helicopter, contributing over \$30 000 annually in both in-kind and financial contributions.

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service provides emergency relief for people who require urgent transportation to hospitals across the Hunter and Mid North Coast of NSW. The Rescue Helicopter Service mostly assists the victims of motor vehicle and motorbike accidents; however the service is also used to transport people requiring urgent organ transplantation, and other severe medical problems.

The service also lends support for search and rescue missions with the NSW Police and Ambulance Services. With 32 years experience, the Rescue Helicopter saves close to 2000 people each year.

In conjunction with primary funding, Veolia employees are also involved in a payroll deduction scheme. Close to 13% of all funding that comes into the Westpac Rescue Helicopter is contributed via sponsorships which now includes Veolia.

If you are interested in finding out more about the employee voluntary deduction scheme, please contact renee.fry@veolia.com.au

Westpac Rescue Helicopter in operation



Baddaginnie & Swan Pool Primary Schools

25km south west of Benalla in Victoria, lies two small rural primary schools, Baddaginnie and Swan Pool.

The schools have a combined total of 22 students from prep to grade 6, and one teacher between them. Each week the

Plane Pull for Stroke Foundation

by Cherie Hansell

Veolia once again competed in the Plane Pull fundraiser for the National Stroke Foundation held in late 2007. The annual event invites teams of 8 to get together and pull a 9000kg aeroplane along the runway to raise money for the National Stroke Foundation.

The Veolia "Tarmac Tuggers" were the winners of the 2006 event, and were keen to defend their title. Their efforts in the 2006 showdown saw the Veolia boys pull the plane 60 metres in 32 seconds.

The 2007 event saw a very different competition however with teams fighting against fierce winds and eventually an irreparable flat tyre. After much discussion, the competition started again with the teams pulling a RAV4 down the tarmac instead.

The Veolia crew once again blitzed the competition pulling the RAV4 60 metres in 17.85 seconds. This competition raised \$10,000 for the Stroke Foundation and we look forward to the "Tarmac Tuggers" defending their title once again this year.

The Veolia "Tarmac Tuggers"



WMAA Young Professionals Poker Champion Tournament

by Kristy Smallwood

In late 2007 staff from VES Victoria took to the tables to participate in the WMAA Young Professionals Poker Champion Tournament.

With representatives from some of our major competitors TPI, Sita & Cleanaway Veolia put on some of their best poker faces and got down to business.

Player's body language was scrutinised as the competition kicked off and whilst no actual money was in play, the competition was fierce with tension mounting.

Things were not looking overly good for Veolia with several players being eliminated in the early rounds. Another low point was Matt Stanelos' cheating technique of spilling his entire drink contents over the table ruining his opponent's card, which was a dismal attempt for a redraw and a failed attempt to keep him in the game. It was down to Lev Osman & Carla Olsson to keep the Veolia flag flying.

Carla was the first to bow out leaving Lev to compete against Steve Maxwell from TPI and Mark Globan from Sita. It was a close call but Lev managed to walk away with the championship title. Congratulations Lev, although we're not entirely sure if it was down to skill, lady luck or just sheer ability to psyche out your opponents using constant bluffing and chit chatter!

Veolia's Good Samaritan

by Angela Horner / Joanne Salmon

On Thursday 7th February whilst travelling to work, Wattle Glen landfill operator Ben Vangestal found himself in an unusual situation. Ben was flagged down on the roadside by an elderly man to assist in the rescue of local Jimboomba man, Ryan Oakey, who was pinned underneath his car after a stand he was using to hold up the vehicle collapsed.

Ben lifted the car freeing Mr Oakey and without even leaving his name Ben jumped back into his car and proceeded to work as if nothing had happened. It wasn't until Mr Oakey made a public appeal for the rescuer to come forward so he could thank him that the mystery man's identity was revealed.

For the record Mr Oakey suffered only minor injuries but without Ben's assistance the outcome could have been much worse.