

BUSINESS RESOURCE EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Doing more with less.



The Business Resource Efficiency Program is a partnership between the Tasmanian Government and Business Action Learning Tasmania and is funded by the Tasmanian Government

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

Taking action on climate change

"Resource efficiency is about doing more with less - creating more value with less impact."

EPA Tasmania



WHAT IS RESOURCE EFFICIENCY?

In business terms, focusing on resource efficiency means optimising processes to limit consumption of materials, and reduce the output of waste products. Benefits can be measured in cost savings and reduced impact on the environment. Businesses can build resilience and increase competitiveness, in preparation for potential future changes in resource availability and customer requirements.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Business Resource Efficiency Program are to:

- Help Tasmanian SMEs reduce their consumption of resources and minimise waste streams;
- Reduce operating costs and drive productivity gains for SMEs; and
- Provide SMEs with practical and tailored information regarding ways to improve their resource efficiency.

TARGET GROUP

The program seeks to target small to medium Tasmanian businesses, with up to 200 full time equivalent employees. Participants will be sought across all industry sectors however the action learning sets formed may focus on specialised groups or supply chains, where such specialisations emerge during consultation.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Each participating company will develop a set of recommendations and an implementation plan for improving resource efficiency. Measurable targets will be established for their individual project (eg. dollar savings, material inputs/outputs, etc.) and results of implementation will be evaluated against these targets at a combined project review forum.

Up to 9 small to medium businesses in each region will receive a comprehensive waste audit in 2018 and participate in a facilitated action learning program to implement recommendations over 9 months in 2019.

This program is funded by the Tasmanian government with a small co-contribution of \$750 per participant.



WASTE AUDITS

June - December 2018

FULL DAY ON-SITE

Comprehensive waste audits of participants' business operations will inform the selection and scoping of a suitable action learning project, based on opportunities identified. The audit will focus on reducing waste at the source and seeking opportunities to derive value from waste streams by establishing or participating in emerging circular economies. This will consider:

- Volumes and costs of waste generated, based on available data
- Inspection of operations and on-site data collection
- Legal and regulatory requirements
- International standards for environmental management
- Lifecycle thinking
- Application of the Waste Management Hierarchy

Audit results will be presented as a report with a series of recommendations. A suitable project will be scoped, based on the recommendations. A Project Specification will be prepared in consultation with senior management, including measurable improvement targets.



WORKSHOP SERIES

February 2019

FOUR FULL DAY WORKSHOPS

1. Introduction to action learning

This workshop will introduce the basic principles of action learning and orientate participants to the program. Each participant will present their project objectives and targets and use the 'fresh eyes' of the group to explore possible approaches.

3. Idea generation

Review of research between sessions and short-listing of ideas to be tested before next session. Identify further information and data to be collected to validate proposed ideas. Establish requirements for reporting, eg. cost/benefit, KPIs, etc.

2. Analyse the current situation

Based on information collected between sessions, the set will assist each other to analyse the current situation and identify opportunities for improvement. Initial brainstorming of ideas and questions to be put to relevant stakeholders.

4. Refine and plan actions

Refine the proposal in response to feedback from key stakeholders. Develop an implementation plan and prepare presentations for senior management.



IMPLEMENTATION

March - December 2019

HALF DAY SET MEETING PER MONTH
MONTHLY ON-SITE MENTORING SESSION

Facilitated implementation of the action plan created during the workshop series. Regular action learning set meetings will be attended by all participants. Duration and frequency of set meetings will be decided by the set however this is typically monthly or at least every six weeks. Duration will depend on the number of set members, typically allow a half hour per set member, eg. set of six members requires a 3-hour session.

Between set meetings, the facilitator will visit participants for a one-on-one mentoring session. Mentoring sessions will focus on removing barriers to implementation, reflecting on lessons learnt and ensuring that participants have sufficient time and resources to complete allocated tasks.

Overall, the estimated hours to be allocated to the project will depend on the scope of work included. As a guide, the company should be willing to allow a minimum of 60-80 hours for their nominated participant, over a nine month period. Other stakeholders across the organisation may be engaged in improvement activities but this should be incorporated into their daily work, where possible.

ABOUT BALT

What we do

Diverse companies cooperating to improve their profitability, develop their people and grow the Tasmanian economy.

CONTACT

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COLLABORATION

Since 2010, Business Action Learning Tasmania (BALT) has been bringing together diverse companies, across regions, supply chains and industry sectors. BALT has facilitated collaborative action learning programs involving iconic Tasmanian businesses from mining, food and agribusiness, aquaculture and manufacturing. BALT programs are designed based on the principles of cluster development and ISO 11000. Working together increases trust and promotes innovation, with 'fresh eyes' shedding new light on old problems.

EVENTS

BALT hosts exclusive member events throughout the year. Program specific events, such as Project Review Forums, are by invitation only due to commercial confidentiality. Public events, such as BALT Third Thursdays, are open to all and are a great opportunity to network across the BALT community.



FACILITATION

BALT facilitators are experienced, industry-based business improvement specialists. All BALT facilitators have received specialised training in action learning facilitation. The facilitator mentors each individual and assists the group to reflect and 'harvest' the collective learning. Supported implementation of improvement ideas ensures that there is 'less talk, more action'. Unlike conventional consulting, the knowledge and skills remain in the organisation after the facilitated program is over.

ONLINE

The Action Learning Exchange (ALEx), is a social learning platform powered by Google's G-Suite for Work. BALT members have access to ALEX, including G-Suite Apps, online resources, an academic librarian, secure teamspaces and unlimited cloud storage in Google Drive.