



EARTHCHECK

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EPICURE PARTNERSHIP PLAN

Epicure is one of Australia's leading catering companies that offers a high quality catering service for private functions and events. Operating in a range of exclusive venues within Victoria and South Australia, the company offers a variety of dining options to suit any style of event. The Epicure brand is committed to providing eco-friendly catering services and promoting environmental sustainability.

Epicure is one of many catering brands operated by Spotless within the Food Services sector. Spotless is a New Zealand and Australia based organization that offers a diverse range of integrated services across several divisions. Thousands of organizations across the two countries employ Spotless to assist them in divisions such as Food Services, Cleaning Services, Managed Services, Painting Services, Laundry Services, and Retailer Services.

Spotless is dedicated to environmental sustainability and reducing their impact on the environment, and is implementing measures to do so. Spotless partnered with EC3 Global to develop a sustainability skills training program for its Epicure partners to improve environmental management within their business through implementing EarthCheck.

The program aimed to up-skill both the trainers and the participants on methods of improving the organisation's environmental and social sustainability and to implement best practice measures.

The EC3 Global/ Epicure Partnership involved the following deliverables:

- Delivery of an online management, monitoring, reporting and evaluation tool (EarthCheck);
- Establishment of sector specific activity measures (Catering & Servery);
- Development and comparison of client performance against industry baselines and best practice;
- A framework to recognise and reward client achievement of key milestones
- Mechanisms to verify client data collection;
- Delivery of Benchmark Reports for public disclosure;
- Mechanisms to verify data prior to on-site auditing;
- Delivery of Audit Reports;
- Marketing and promotional support.



SPOTLESS AND EC3 GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

In delivering the program, the trainers and participants received a one-on-one induction to the EarthCheck Assessed program and continuous mentoring sessions and/or telephone contact over the 12 months with an EarthCheck mentor.

A sustainability workbook was provided, along with an online assessment tool using an interactive HealthCheck and an Action Plan. Access to the EarthCheck Assessed program is also provided for those participants that complete the training.

The program delivered a range of skills for participants, which include:

- Understanding the environmental principles of sustainability and how these directly link to running and operating a profitable business;
- Compiling a list of green initiatives to save money;
- Assessing the current environmental practices of their own business performance;
- Developing and applying a sustainable business policy and translating this to a sustainable plan for their business;
- Undertaking and trialling the sustainability plan for 12 months;
- Refining the business policy and planning for sustainable environmental practices;
- Promoting sustainable business initiatives to the community, customers, and suppliers;
- Measuring and benchmarking their own environmental performance using EarthCheck Assessed.

PUTTING TRAINING INTO ACTION

Epicure and EC3 Global have initiated a pilot project that provides a process for Epicure's clients to be recognised as 'working towards' EarthCheck Assessed.

The aim is to provide Epicure and its clients with access to quantitative tools and programs to enable reporting of operational performance.

To ensure the adoption of international best practice and implementation of a quantitative reporting platform, Epicure engaged with EC3 Global to develop industry first 'sector specific' benchmarks for their food and beverage operations enabling its existing and future clients to measure, benchmark, report and evaluate annual performance.

This was achieved through the creation of two new dedicated sectors under the EarthCheck Assessed program – Catering Services and Servery Sector.

In the first year of the Partnership Plan, Epicure has engaged with four of its

exclusive catering venues, with a further 3 or 4 more venues are anticipated to be included in the second year of the program.

The four venues that are included in the first year of partnership are as follows:

- **Zinc at Federation Square**
Catering Services Sector
- **Melbourne Town Hall**
Catering Services Sector
- **The Arts Centre**
Catering Services Sector
- **Melbourne Cricket Ground**
Servery Sector

EC3 Global has assisted the Epicure participants in developing the relevant templates for collecting and sampling their energy, water and waste data for entry into the EarthCheck Assessed Program.

Phone and email support is also provided. This is to ensure accurate and relevant environmental reporting.

