



Wärtsilä Australia, 2013

Case Study Wärtsilä Australia

Bin Trim – Waste solutions for a sustainable business

Of the 55 tonnes of waste it generated each year, Wärtsilä was recycling only 6 per cent. The Bin Trim program gave Wärtsilä the opportunity to engage with staff and substantially improve environmental outcomes.

What’s in the bin?

Wärtsilä, a manufacturer of lifecycle power solutions for the marine and energy markets, had been recycling some plastic containers, plastic bottles and aluminium cans from the staff kitchen, but a simple Bin Trim assessment found they had the potential to recycle 43 per cent more. Wooden pallets were being thrown into general waste, as well as large amounts of paper, cardboard and packaging materials. ‘The Bin Trim tool allowed us to determine and quantify our current waste being generated and new opportunities for recycling,’ says general manager Andrew Segula.

Priority materials for recycling or reuse include:

- Paper
- Wooden pallets
- Plastic wrap
- Cardboard
- E-waste

Actions to reduce waste and recycle more

Wärtsilä made a commitment to divert all paper and cardboard products from general waste to recycling by installing a 2000-litre paper recycling bin and bin for glass, plastics and aluminium in the lunchroom. Smaller paper recycling bins were positioned at each employee’s workstation. Collection services for paper and wooden pallets were organised, then Wärtsilä worked with staff to encourage the recovery of paper, wooden pallets and commingled recyclables from their office, staff kitchen and workshop. ‘We found that there was a great willingness amongst staff to adopt the new recycling system and to make it work,’ Segula says. Clearer recycling signage helped remind staff to recycle.



Potential recycling

Bin Trim identified that Wärtsilä had the potential to recycle 43 per cent more.



- 51% General waste
- 6% Currently recycled
- 43% Potential recycling

Bin Trim savings

- An additional 4 tonnes of paper recycled per year
- Increased recycling to 36 per cent



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Actions implemented included:

- Started a regular 2000 litre paper recycling collection service
- Started a 240 litre commingled recycling collection service
- Arranged a regular wooden pallet recycling collection service
- Educated and motivated staff to use the new recycling system
- Installed recycling bin signage
- Located recycling bins in optimal positions
- Printers set for double-sided printing.

Results and savings

Wärtsilä is now recovering all paper and cardboard from the office and kitchen areas of their Huntingwood site, and has increased the recycling of metals, plastics and bottles. By diverting wooden pallets from the general waste collection, the amount the company recycles has increased from 6 per cent to an impressive 36 per cent. Wärtsilä is now planning to implement its waste reduction plan across all four offices in Australia. 'It's so rewarding to cut any wastage in the workplace,' Segula says.



For further information

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