



FIRST YEAR REVIEW
Viridian
(previously Pilkington)
Sustainability Covenant



The Viridian Sustainability Covenant, the first covenant entered into with a manufacturer, was signed on 1 March 2007.

This report covers the reporting period from 1 March 2007 to 1 March 2008.

As well as providing some background on the development and objectives of this Covenant, this report presents a review of the key initiatives, activities and outcomes reached during the Covenant's first period.

Background to the Viridian Sustainability Covenant

The Sustainability Covenant is a four-year voluntary agreement between Viridian, EPA Victoria, the Australian Industry Group ('Ai Group') and Sustainability Victoria to work together to protect the environment and to contribute to a more sustainable Victoria.

Objectives of the Sustainability Covenant

The overall objectives of this Covenant are to:

- support product innovation to deliver greater resource efficiency from the life cycle benefits of coated glass
- build and develop a partnership between EPA, Viridian, Ai Group and Sustainability Victoria that takes the relationship beyond site based issues to incorporate consideration of environmental impacts across the life cycle, product innovation and the business opportunities this presents
- demonstrate the business opportunities and benefits including increased profitability, productivity and growth, from establishing sustainability as a framework for business for both Viridian and as a model for Victorian industry.

Highlights of the partnership in the Covenant's first year

- Through the introduction to a variety of stakeholders, Viridian is now well positioned to achieve their target of 20% of Viridian sales being energy efficient glazing products.
- An open and collaborative approach to the Works Approval process assisted EPA and Viridian to complete in a constructive and timely manner.
- Viridian has embedded sustainability into its business.

Progress against commitments

The focus of the first phase of the Covenant, with duration of two years, is:

- ensuring the environmental and societal benefits of product innovation in glass coating technologies are realised in the market place
- capturing the benefits of incorporating sustainability into core business as a model to apply to Viridian's other product lines and Viridian's business strategy in the second phase of the Covenant. This will include Life Cycle Assessment, CAPEX processes, the ongoing goal of zero waste and product innovation across the entire business.

Below is a report on the main achievements under each of the Covenant's commitments:

Commitments	Achievements
Promote energy efficient glazing systems and glass products (coated glass, double glazing, glass for solar energy applications panels) to generate market growth to a minimum of 20% of Viridian sales.	Viridian have been introduced to a variety of stakeholders through EPA, SV and Ai Group's networks. These include the Building Commission, industry associations and other areas of government. These interactions have assisted Viridian identify barriers and opportunities associated with adoption of energy efficient glazing products.
Introduce technology that allows Viridian to produce energy efficient glazing systems and glass products that have high environmental and societal value. Products include for example coated glass, double glazing, solar energy applications.	EPA approved the Works Approval for the Dandenong plant upgrade on February 5. A condition of the Works Approval is a joint investigation into the feasibility of installing a cogeneration plant and work has commenced on this study.
Quantify the societal and environmental value of energy efficient glazing systems.	A life cycle assessment (LCA) has been completed by Centre for Design at RMIT. It assessed the energy advantage of using 'low-emissivity hard coating glazing' in residential and commercial buildings. Malcolm Deery (Environment, Health and Safety Manager, Viridian) has spoken in a number of different fora about Viridian's commitments under the Covenant, sustainability and the role of the Victorian EPA more broadly.
Capture and promote the benefits of incorporating sustainability into core business as a model to apply to Viridian's other product lines and Viridian's business strategy.	EPA and SV have spoken with their stakeholders about Viridian's leadership in sustainability to stimulate interest and encourage similar action.
Promote the role of glass products in helping to deliver the Victorian Government's policy objectives and commitments outlined in Our Environment, Our Future – Sustainability Action Statement 2006 and Energy for Victoria.	In progress – exploring relationships with government departments.
Continue to pursue the goal of zero waste at Viridian sites through identification and implementation of both incremental and step change improvements in the reduction of waste.	Viridian continues to reduce water usage at both Dandenong and Geelong plants. This has been achieved through greater water efficiency, as a result of continuous improvements through better understanding of production processes. This and other efficiency projects are underpinned by the organisations "Goal of Zero waste".

This report has been prepared jointly by:



Krista Milne
Manager, Life Cycle Unit
EPA Victoria



Malcolm Deery
Environment, Health, Safety and
Business Sustainability Manager
Viridian Glass

Contact Information



95 Greens Road
Dandenong 3175
Ph: 03 9212 2222
www.viridianglass.com



40 City Rd
Southbank
GPO Box 4395QQ
Melbourne VIC 3001
Ph: 03 9695 2722
www.epa.vic.gov.au



Level 28
Urban Workshop
50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Ph: 03 8626 8700
www.sustainability.vic.gov.au



20 Queens Rd
Melbourne Victoria 3004
PO Box 7622
Melbourne Victoria 8004
Ph: 03 9867 0111
www.aigroup.asn.au