



# National Convention Centre Canberra Canberra's only convention centre



The multi-awarded National Convention Centre Canberra is Canberra's leading, purpose-built meeting and events venue. With a collection of 15 spaces over two floors, the Centre's design is both compact and logical for guests, visitors and staff.

Responsible business is everybody's business at the Centre and integral to everything it does. This includes reducing impact on the environment and showcasing environmental initiatives for a sustainable future. Policies and procedures in this area include a 100% commitment to reuse and recycle the resources the Centre consumes.

## WASTE ASSESSMENT

**REDUCED**  
waste to landfill  
**to 37%**

*"Our commitment to responsible business practices is engrained in our culture. We live it. We breathe it. We tackle it with passion."*

*Stephen Wood, General Manager,  
National Convention Centre Canberra*

**The Actsmart Business team visited the National Convention Centre Canberra** in 2009 to review its waste practices and conduct an initial audit.

The team then presented a detailed report, including an action plan, identifying areas for improvement in the Centre's daily operations. This included innovative ways to recycle the large amount of resources the Centre was consuming, to reduce waste to landfill.

In some cases, Actsmart recommendations built on practices already underway in the Centre. For example, the Centre was reducing a percentage of its organic waste going to landfill by donating surplus food to OzHarvest; however some was still going to landfill. To solve this problem, the Actsmart assessor recommended that the Centre engage a local vermicomposting company. Now, worms eat the waste and the resulting fertiliser is used to grow the next season's food crops.



**CASE STUDY**

**RESULTS**

**DIVERSION of waste from landfill**  
**over 1 tonne**  
 of food donated to OzHarvest

Key results achieved included:

- waste separation bins installed throughout the Centre
- improved recycling by all staff at large events
- vermicomposting to divert organic waste from landfill.

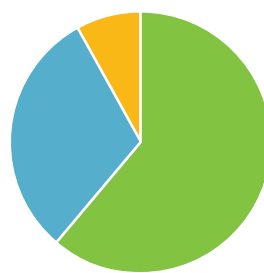
*“Actsmart has really kept the team here at National Convention Centre Canberra thinking about their recycling habits. The Centre has been commended for ‘actively recycling’ for six years in a row.”*

*Halim Otham, Facilities Manager National Convention Centre Canberra*

**RECYCLING RESULTS**

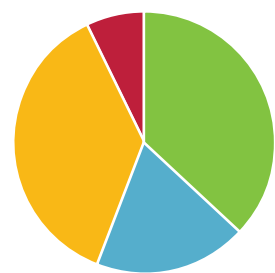


Initial Audit Composition



■ Landfill 62%  
■ Paper/Cardboard 30%  
■ Mixed Recyclables 8%

Latest Audit Composition



■ Landfill 37%  
■ Paper/Cardboard 19%  
■ Mixed Recyclables 37%  
■ Organic 7%

FOR MORE INFORMATION



**ACT**  
Government

**make (the) change**