Work place education increases recycling

Global freight forwarders and logistic managers DB Schenker started seriously recycling in the workplace in 2009 - 2010, with support from the Sustainability Advantage Program run by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Looking for new ways to reduce waste and increase recycling within the business led the company to BusinessRecycling. DB Schenker has used BusinessRecycling services since 2012 and has experienced positive results in the workplace.

Educational signage for employees

DB Schenker Environmental Lead, John Turle, first learnt about BusinessRecycling through the ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ recycling program.

“I was looking at the toner recycling boxes and wondered what other services Planet Ark had on offer, so I contacted them and they referred me to BusinessRecycling,” says Mr Turle.

Mr Turle used BusinessRecycling specifically to find a mobile phone and battery recycling service – MobileMuster. The next hurdle involved the best way to label the recycling boxes within the workplace, which is where BusinessRecycling came to the rescue again.

“I was able to find a variety of resources and posters on the website to help easily identify where the specific recyclable materials should be deposited,” explained Mr Turle.

“It was clear for our staff to see the new recycling initiative and see how it could be used.”
Recycling increases with employee awareness

Through the introduction of mobile and battery recycling and *new signage*, DB Schenker employees are now aware of the options available for recycling and the services are being used extensively.

The **MobileMuster** initiative commenced in December 2012 and in the first month there was a significant influx of recycling activity. Five kilograms of batteries were collected and in the four months following, 25-30 mobile phones were collected by staff. Not bad for a first time user!

**Recycling for the future**

Mr Turle says DB Schenker currently uses a toner recycling service and that he has used Business Recycling to identify local e-waste recycling services for computers. “The next step for the workplace may be recycling organic waste – I am aware of a program run through Earth Power.”

Overall, BusinessRecycling has delivered significant benefits for DB Schenker and it can now market itself as an environmentally conscious company which actively engages in recycling initiatives within the workplace.

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John Turle
DB Schenker

Make recycling at work easy! Visit BusinessRecycling.com.au to check out reuse and recycling options for around 90 different materials, find out how to choose the right recycler, download signage to help with recycling, and learn what other workplaces are doing to manage waste and improve sustainability.