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The War on Waste

The War on Waste has come to Grosvenor Place – one of Australia's most premium and awarded office towers, with is sweeping Sydney Harbour and city views, prime Circular Quay position and prestigious list of top tier customers.

They are fighting the good fight on food waste having installed Australia's first office tower, indeed any high-rise tower, waste food recycling system with an enrich360 dehydrator. The machine, the size of a couple of combi vans in the basement, regurgitates the building community's food scraps into fertiliser for compost that goes back to the farm for growing food – creating a proper circular economy routine for all those economists in the building to admire and get onboard with the movement.



Grosvenor Place Executive Director John Derrick could not be prouder of his team who have embraced the project to make meaningful waste - with more than 10 tonnes of discarded food processed into the biomass in the first three months of installation.

The dehydrator, installed by Enrich 360, dehydrates the food collected from both office and retail customers, removes the moisture then heats and cleans the biomass converting it a fertiliser that appears much like dirt.



"We save on the bills to the tune of \$20,000 a year in waste costs, plus we save on the environment by diverting literally thousands of kilograms from landfill and producing a useful, regenerated product to put back to use in agriculture," Derrick said.

Neil Perry's Rosetta Ristorante is a big supporter of Grosvenor Place's recycling initiatives, with Head Chef Richard Purdue saying "At Rosetta we use the dehydrator for most of our organic waste. The system provides us all the benefits of composting without needing the space or manpower to make that happen. It is as simple as having one of the black compost 'caddies' next to each bin, so waste is separated as it is disposed of. As the system is so simple and requires no extra work, it has been very easy to implement."

Although the restaurant remains closed due to COVID, the kitchen has been very busy preparing meals for Hope Delivery, a community meal program delivering 14,000 meals weekly and backed by 'The Rockpool Foundation'.

In a CBD environment of concrete towers, composting is not an option, so this machine can convert waste in less than 24 hours – as the company says - recovering resources, reducing landfill and replenishing nutrients.

Diverting food waste from landfill also contributes to reducing the methane waste food emits so Grosvenor Place scores on many sustainability fronts with this new investment.

Enrich 360 says the food waste fertilizer is a superior way to stop soil degradation as it replaces the need to chemical fertilisers and produces more nutritious and tastier food.

Derrick says Grosvenor Place is keen to share their experience and happy to showcase the solution to other interested commercial property building managers considering joining the circular economy of food waste.

The management team already have form with their sustainability goals, having championed the Simply Cups movement through most workplaces since introducing the scheme to the building in August 2019. This clever concept is now Australia's largest cup recycling program and has been popular across Australian coffee businesses, but now Grosvenor Place have further closed the loop on this campaign by purchasing reconstituted plastic car park stops for the building that are 100% made from the recovered Simply Cups and produced by Plastic Forests of Australia.

For forward thinking, the ultimate modernist and Grosvenor Place architect Harry Seidler would be proud.







About Grosvenor Place

Grosvenor Place is a prestigious complex conceived by celebrated Australian architects Harry Seidler & Associates. Poised dynamically on a whole city block bound by George, Grosvenor, Harrington and Essex Streets, it has been home to some of the world's most successful companies since opening its doors in 1987. This premium building, renowned for its audacious vision and timelessness, is entering a new era having completed a revitalisation program to provide customers, visitors and the public with new levels of comfort and experience. Co-owners and managers Dexus Property Group, Mirvac Group and Arcadia, have ensured the redevelopments honour and enhance Seidler's original vision.