

MEDIA RELEASE

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Energy overhaul for Seabank Centre

This year, the government's Green Building Fund has helped a number of properties implement energy saving measures.

The 12 storey Seabank Centre at Southport is one such building. Making dramatic use of over 580 windows, its tenants enjoy sweeping views of the Broadwater and beyond. The flip side was that sun exposure resulted in major heat and glare problems, placing immense pressure on the building's air conditioning system.

David Kitcher, Seabank representative, comments, "We researched many solutions to this glazing problem and in the end we hired a local window film installer to apply solar control window film. As this would have such a huge impact on our energy consumption, we received a grant from the government's Green Building Fund¹ for the window makeover."

Film installer Les Hefford of Budget Tinting, Palm Beach, said, "The existing windows were a mix of laminated solar blue and toughened body tint bronze. A solar control film was selected that provided high heat rejection, low heat absorption and would not change the appearance of the factory coloured glass."

Budget Tinting applied over 12,000 square feet of window film over the course of six weeks.

Window film is a popular solution for commercial properties like the Seabank Centre because it can be retrofit quickly and easily, with minimal disruption to tenants.

Les reflects, "SeaFM and GoldFM radio stations are located within the Seabank Centre. One of our most interesting days was when we had to install film in their offices while the DJs were broadcasting."

According to David Kitcher, feedback from tenants has been extremely positive since the installation.

"We instantly received comments about how much more comfortable the rooms were," David says. "Views are now appreciated at all times of the day and desks can be moved closer to windows as there is no glare. This allows greater flexibility when it comes to office configuration and essentially gives tenants more room. Call outs to fix the air conditioning unit have also dropped."

Budget Tinting is a member of the Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand (WFAANZ). WFAANZ members abide by a strict code of practice and can recommend the most suitable product for any particular need. WFAANZ film manufacturers' products provide a minimum 10 year warranty on commercial applications.

WFAANZ President Rob Hamilton comments, "Case studies show that air conditioning usage has been reduced by as much as 30% after the application of window film. This creates energy savings and less pressure on the conditioner unit, as demonstrated by the Seabank Centre."

A list of WFAANZ installers can be found at www.wfaanz.org.au.

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For further information, images or an interview please contact:

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¹ The Green Building Fund is closed for applications