

# KAOLIN PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP POLICY

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### WHO IS KAOLIN?

One of the industry leading Architectural Stores in Sydney, backed by a world-class tile manufacturer with over 25 years of experience in porcelain tile manufacturing. Kaolin celebrates engineering, design and craftsmanship behind every tile. Our vision is to become an integral part of Australia's future architectural canvas by focusing on our valuable partnerships with our clients.

Our expertise combines the finest product, innovation of the highest calibre, and certified sustainable solutions. We define contemporary architecture by drawing upon antique traditions and infusing them with technological innovations. Our product has been carefully refined to reward every space with excellence, harmony and superior durability, while considering our environment.



### **HOW IS KAOLIN SUSTAINABLE?**

Our approach to sustainability is multi-faceted. Kaolin targets numerous key areas of manufacturing by providing green solutions to production origin, operations, assembly, storage, delivery and recovery. By incorporating our orbital approach to minimising an impact on the environment, we support the future of industry and the planet.

Kaolin's operations policy focuses on the future by aligning our core environmental values with the Green Building Council Australia. Our objectives are to protect our planet's biodiversity and ecosystems, by driving to accomplish resilient and transformative outcomes for our industry and surrounding communities. Through reducing and reprocessing practices we contribute to a sustainable economy and create healthier living environments for people to live and work in.

Global Green Tag<sup>™</sup> is an Ecospecifier recognised by the Green Building Council of Australia. Trusted by diverse green building councils, certification bodies and governments around the world, Global Green Tag<sup>™</sup> demands full disclosure for evaluation, and independently assures that every product and process is competence tested and certified using the world's best scientific processes. Kaolin has been acknowledged as an exemplary model for sustainable practices and awarded a GreenRate Level A – a 'Sustainability Factor' of 100%.

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# WHAT IS KAOLIN'S SUSTAINABLE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS?

- Land use minimisation by utilising AI smart warehousing to reduce factory footprint by 81.5%
- Our smart factory saves an average of 30% on electricity, and 30% on our workforce annually, while maintaining a spotlight on fair labour practices.
- CO<sup>2</sup> offsetting with over 11000 hectares of forest preserved surrounding our smart factory.
- 100% of clay used, whereas up to 50% can be wasted in stone tile products.
- Clay, feldspar and quartz which are the main ingredients are non-finite and can be found in abundance in earth crust.

- Kilns use less energy from natural gas which effectively reduces CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.
- Employ dust reduction, de-sulphurisation and denitrification of the fumes from kiln chimneys.
- 100% of water used is recycled on site. No industrial wastewater is discharged and no waste residue leaves the factory.
- 100% of manufacturing waste is reused in production.
   VOC-free products contribute to "healthy buildings"

## WHY THERE IS A NEED TO RECYCLE?

In 2004–05 Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste generation in Australia was 15.1 mil tonnes , of which 7.6 mil tonnes was recycled materials (timber, steel, concrete, rubble and soil) and 7.5 mil tonnes was residual waste to landfill. In 2006–07, this almost tripled to approximately 43.7 mill tonnes of waste generated, 38 percent of which was from the C&D stream.

The advantages to adopting sustainable practices are collectively beneficial:



#### **ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT**

Conventionally, construction and demolition waste was disposed of in landfills. This outmoded technique can cause significant damage to localised flora and fauna, by leaching chemicals into surrounding soil samples and waterways, thereby affecting plant growth, habitat, animal populations and human health.

There are various advantages to integrate reusable strategies in production and manufacturing. Managing construction waste appropriately can mitigate damage to the environment, community safety and the economy. Kaolin asserts that our environmental processes make a valuable contribution.

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#### **ECONOMIC BENEFIT**

Construction and manufacturing for the future has never been so critical. Governments are establishing markets with new regulation and legislation to respond to environmental challenges through sustainable practices and ecological responsibility. Businesses that adopt these new disciplines are growing and profiting by adapting to these new challenges and responding with innovations that transform waste into valuable resources.

Kaolin's progressive sustainable management saves energy by reducing the impact of sourcing raw materials, construction, disposal and transportation costs. Landfill waste is decreased and therefore the extended benefit to our environment and human health is relieved. Additionally, as regulations continue to place a higher importance on Green construction, affiliated and supporting entities are provided with a competitive edge in their industry and consumer alike.

# HOW CAN CLIENTS PLAY A ROLE IN PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP?

Kaolin's contribution to sustainable growth expands with customer awareness. Kaolin tiles are 100% recyclable. We encourage our clients to recycle by supplying them with the means to convert their waste and support re-usable supply chains.

Bingo Industries is our business partner, who incorporate tile recycling into their wide range of applications, including pipe bedding, trench filling, paving roads, car parks and driveways.

#### CUSTOMER ACTION PLAN

- 1. Call the general number of Bingo Industries 1300 424 646.
- 2. Mention Kaolin to get access to our special rates.
- 3. Request a bin to your premises.
- 4. Bingo will take your load to the recycling facilities.

\*All costs are covered by the clients.

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR

"We thank you for your patronage and support in recognising the importance of sustainable practices and our goal of achieving excellence without compromising the future, for everyone."

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