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SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2023



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Our Purpose

Enabling people in infrastructure construction to push forward with confidence.

For our clients, we help them make better informed timely decisions. For our co-workers and those we support in our community, we foster an environment aimed at making the impossible possible.

Insitutek makes a conscious effort to contribute to a better world together with our customers, partners, and stakeholders, carrying these values throughout our brand.

Improving the world in the small ways we can is at the core of how Insitutek runs, transforming our purpose into a reality.

Insitutek's progress towards sustainability goals

Overall, we spent 5% of our work time contributing to our community, a notional contribution of \$57K.

Empowering our People and Using our Voice

Working in the civil construction space, we recognise that approximately 70% of global greenhouse gas emissions come from construction and operations such as power plants, buildings, and transport. As a Certified B Corp, we are working hard to make our business a part of the solution, not part of the problem.

The civil engineering and construction sectors have a huge role to play in addressing the carbon emissions reductions we need to achieve to minimise further global warming.

Ground Level Alliance

Check out [Ground Level Alliance](#), an organisation we are very proud to have seeded. Ground Level Alliance, chaired by our own Robin Power, is a diverse group of sustainability and civil engineering related professionals, all passionate and actively contributing to delivering more sustainable outcomes in their projects.

Ground Level Alliance have set about empowering and equipping civil construction professionals in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands to make sustainability a daily practice, like safety. They guide the way.

It's an exceptionally ambitious project, powered by volunteer power at this stage. That has its own challenges with securing sufficient bandwidth in our crew's busy schedules.

Their work is currently in 3 areas:

1. **Case Studies** - Ground Level Alliance are gathering examples from civil construction projects from around the globe that showcase the implementation of good sustainability practice. The case studies will be shared publicly on the Ground Level Alliance website, a very well categorised one stop shop for reference material for sustainability in civil construction in the Pacific region. They may also be used in our educational programs.

2. **Resources** - Ground Level Alliance are bringing together a list of resources in one place so our profession know who is doing what at the cutting edge. This covers the following:

- Design standards - e.g. rethinking design life, accepted materials, future proofing
- Norms and expectations - challenging the status quo
- Organisation / team e.g. rethinking traditional structures and roles
- Procurement e.g. project assessment, sustainable procurement, emerging delivery models
- Policy to support sustainability in civil construction
- Education - e.g. sustainability advocacy, think tanks
- Measurement e.g. sustainability ratings tools, carbon and GHG calculators

3. **Education** - To start with, Ground Level Alliance are developing the outline of a practical course on Sustainability in Civil Construction. The idea is to help civil construction professionals understand and then implement sustainability practices into their daily work. The course is focused on the earlier stages of projects where you can have more impact.

The emphasis is on learning by doing, combining the academic with the practical in your workplace. Learning will be a blend of live online learning and small group work. The objective of the small group work is to embed the learnings based on projects in student organisations or relevant similar case studies so that learnings can be immediately applied. Small groups will be curated to blend knowledge and skill level and diversity.

Not only will what each discipline can do become clear but also, importantly, how to create the environment for effective change. The obstacles as well as how to overcome them will be worked through.

The course provides guidance, knowledge and skills and a strong cross industry network to lean on. Ground Level Alliance will form an active alumni network.

The learnings draw on best practice uncovered through our case studies and resources global investigations and course alumni practical experiences with the course material developed and delivered by industry practitioners who are the best subject matter and content delivery experts we can find.

Decarbonization

Insitutek's scope 1,2 and 3 emissions

According to the GHG-Protocol, emissions are classified to 3 scopes:

Scope 1 emissions cover all direct emissions from a company's activities or activities under their control, including fuel combustion on site, e.g. from burning coal and own vehicles.

Scope 2 emissions cover indirect emissions from electricity and heat purchased and used by the company.

Scope 3 emissions are defined as all other indirect emissions from activities of the organization, occurring from sources that they do not own or control and covering emissions along the value chain, for example purchased goods and services such as chemicals and logistics.

We have continued to buy 100% GreenPower for Origin Energy. GreenPower is a government-accredited program. Origin match your energy use by sending the same amount of renewable energy back into the energy grid. Since August 2023, when we relocated offices to Maleny, we have been powered by solar electricity.

Insitutek's Carbon Footprint

Insitutek measure outputs that we have identified and defined to assess our progress toward achieving our social and environmental goals. A key focus area includes measuring our carbon footprint and implementing measures to offset carbon emissions.

Our carbon footprint tracking included business travel such as flights and vehicle travel. We then collated all relevant information on packages we had sent out or received, coming in or being delivered domestically or internationally, calculating the distance that the package travelled via truck or plane as well as considering its size/weight.

We used the following calculators to determine the offset emissions for these deliveries and travel distance:

Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps>

Distance Calculator: <https://www.distance.to/>

Cargoson CO2 Calculator: <https://www.cargoson.com/en/tools/co2-calculator>

Carbon Positive Australia Calculator: <https://carbonpositiveaustralia.org.au/carbon-footprint-calculator/>

Our carbon footprint record keeping has improved again over the last 12 months, resulting in the need for estimations being minimised.

2023 Calendar Year Carbon Footprint:

Flight travel:

TOTAL: 125,168.81 km

29.90t CO2

*8.86t more than previous year

Car travel:

TOTAL: 23,409.84 km

0.19t CO2

*0.10t more than previous year

Package deliveries:

TOTAL: 415,424 km

34.91t CO2

*3.76t more than previous year

Energy usage: Origin energy

TOTAL: 6,283 kWh

0t CO2

*0.00t less than previous year

Total House Footprint = **65 tonnes** of CO2

*13 tonnes of CO2 more than previous year (2022)

Carbon Offsetting

At Insitutek, we uphold respect for the environment as one of our core values in managing our business. We are dedicated to operating with a purpose that transcends profit, focusing on generating benefits for all stakeholders, including employees, clients, suppliers, communities, and the environment. Our decisions are driven by the desire to make a positive impact while meeting the highest standards of social and environmental performance, transparency, and legal accountability. By balancing purpose and profit, we leverage the power of business to build a better, more sustainable economic system that puts people and the planet first.

As part of this commitment, we are pleased to offset our remaining carbon footprint through emissions reduction and the purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU). We have engaged in the Extended Impact initiative **by Tasman Environmental Markets (TEM)**, which combines carbon credits from the April Salumei Rainforest Conservation project in Papua New Guinea with Biological Diversity Units (BDUs) from various conservation efforts across Australia. These initiatives encompass the Budgerum Grassland Protection project in Victoria, the Alleena Woodland Protection project in New South Wales, and the Coorong Lakes Protection project in South Australia.

The **April Salumei project** conserves **603,712 hectares** of tropical rainforest in Papua New Guinea, preventing the release of approximately **22.8 million tonnes** of greenhouse gas emissions. This project not only addresses climate change but also supports local indigenous communities and protects vital biodiversity in the region. By purchasing carbon credits from this **REDD+ certified project**, Insitutek ensures that our emissions are fully offset while also contributing to the preservation of critical ecosystems.

In Victoria, the **Budgerum Grassland Protection project** safeguards the critically endangered Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains, home to over **107 plant species**, including the threatened **Chariot Wheels** and **Bristly Love-grass**. This conservation effort also protects vulnerable bird species such as the **Plains-wanderer** and **Little Button-quail**, along with other fauna like the **Fat-tailed Dunnart** and **Tree Goanna**.



Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley. Image sourced from Tasman Environmental Markets (TEM).

In New South Wales, the **Alleena Woodland Protection project** conserves **497.58 hectares** of woodland in the Riverina region. This area serves as a designated conservation reserve that provides habitat for threatened bird species such as the **Brown Treecreeper** and **Dusky Wood swallow** while preserving vital ecological communities. By ensuring permanent protection through a Conservation Agreement with the **NSW Biodiversity**

Conservation Trust (BCT), this project enhances biodiversity and habitat connectivity for endangered species.



Alleena Woodland. Image sourced from Tasman Environmental Markets (TEM).

In South Australia, the **Coorong Lakes Protection project** is managed by Cassinia Environmental in collaboration with the **Ngarrindjeri people**. This initiative actively conserves the unique wetlands and ecosystems of the Coorong Lakes region, offering legal protection and sustainable management practices that safeguard the region's biodiversity.



Coorong Lakes. Image sourced from Tasman Environmental Markets (TEM).

Through these projects, Insitutek has offset **100%** of its greenhouse gas emissions. We purchased and retired **175 units** of certified carbon credits, ensuring that our environmental impact is neutralized. In doing so, we align with Australia's **Climate Active Program** and TEM's **VERRA Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS)** requirements, further demonstrating our commitment to both environmental stewardship and community development. As we continue our environmental journey, Insitutek remains dedicated to using business as a force for good, ensuring that the decisions we make benefit all stakeholders and contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future.

Read more here:

https://online.tasmanenvironmental.com.au/product/png_vic_forests/
<https://wilderlands.earth/projects/budgerum/>
https://online.tasmanenvironmental.com.au/product/png_nsw_forests/
<https://wilderlands.earth/projects/alleena/>
https://online.tasmanenvironmental.com.au/product/png_sa_forests/
<https://wilderlands.earth/projects/coorong-lakes/>

This certificate verifies that

Insitutek Pty Ltd

has protected

175m²

of critical habitat for biodiversity by purchasing and retiring
175 Biological Diversity Units

16/07/2024

Date of Issue



Registrar Certification

Biodiversity Units supplied by



WILDERLANDS

Our vision is a world where people value earth's natural ecosystems and work together to nurture biodiversity so that future generations can continue to be enriched, enlightened and inspired by Nature.

wilderlands.co

Certificate Details

Units purchased and retired by: Insitutek Pty Ltd

Number of units: 175

Registrar: Vegetation Link Pty Ltd

Units supplied by: Wilderlands

VegetationLink Order ID: 243c5e12-2721

Date and time of issue: 16/07/2024 11:57 AM AEST

Serial number(s):

Grasslands Unit(s):

C1662_03-1C-70795-70859

Wetlands Unit(s):

NVS-2022/4004/182-7-187247-187304

Woodlands Unit(s):

CA0507_1A-25556-25607