

## Foster's Group Sustainability Update - April 2007

*Preparations are already underway for the publication of our second Group Sustainability Report in late September. The Report will, among other things, formally describe our progress against the annual Sustainability Action Plan and set new goals for the coming financial year. In the meantime, we hope you are enjoying our regular, informal updates. As always, your feedback is welcome on any aspect of our sustainability activity at [inthecommunity@fostersgroup.com](mailto:inthecommunity@fostersgroup.com)*

### **Earth Day Acclaim for Meridian Vineyards**

Meridian Vineyards in California was highlighted in the American press this month for its leadership in environmental sustainability. Meridian's responsible stewardship of 4,500 acres of vineyards along with its award winning waste reduction programs were showcased in a feature-length [Earth Day report by the San Luis Obispo Tribune](#). Highlighted in the report were Meridian's 60-acre wildlife corridor, the use of hundreds of owl boxes to naturally control rodents and its best-practice systems to harvest rainwater and reclaim wastewater.



*Don Ackerman is Meridian's director of Central Coast vineyards. The winery has been a leader in sustainable 'best practices' for more than 10 years on its 4,500 acres of vineyards in the area.*

### **Waste + New Technology = Water + Clean Energy**

A microbial fuel cell that creates energy from brewery waste water has been installed at Foster's Yatala Brewery in South East Queensland. The experimental fuel cell uses bacteria to consume water-soluble brewing waste such as sugar, starch and alcohol, in the process producing clean electricity and water. The cell was developed by scientists at the University of Queensland, in cooperation with the Yatala team, and is expected to deliver power at the rate of two kilowatts. If successful, Foster's will look at ways to apply the technology to our other breweries and wineries.

Meanwhile, in the Barossa Valley (South Australia), Foster's Group and Tarac distillers have upgraded their jointly-owned wastewater treatment plant which is now producing more than 220 megalitres of water each year for re-use. The plant has greatly reduced wastewater and odour leakage, thus improving local amenity at the same time.

## VB Midstrength Lager now on shelves

Foster's commitment to enhance consumer choice in low and reduced alcohol beverages was in evidence again this month with the launch of VB Midstrength Lager. Following on the heels of the successful launch of Yellowglen Jewel, the newest edition to the VB family places Foster's at the forefront of reduced alcohol innovation. VB Mid is crisp and refreshing with 3.5% ABV or one standard drink per can or stubby.



## Foster's people reminded to Enjoy Responsibly

While Foster's is vigorous in promoting responsible enjoyment externally, we're equally concerned to ensure that our own staff understand, live by and advocate a responsible approach to alcohol. As part of this effort, all Foster's sites in Australia have just taken delivery of updated "Enjoy Responsibly" posters. These are designed to be displayed in all kitchens, reception and bar areas to explain clearly the national alcohol guidelines and how to stay within them.



**Enjoy Responsibly**

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**4** STANDARD DRINKS A DAY ON AVERAGE IS A SAFE LEVEL OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION FOR MEN.

**2** STANDARD DRINKS PER DAY ON AVERAGE IS A SAFE LEVEL OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION FOR WOMEN.

Gender	Standard Drink	Volume	Alcohol Content
Men	Full Strength Beer	375ml	4.9% Alc./Vol
	Full Strength Beer	375ml	4.9% Alc./Vol
	Small Sip	30ml	40% Alc./Vol
Women	Flavoured Spirits	30ml	16% Alc./Vol
	Average Serve of Spirits	175ml	40% Alc./Vol
	Light Beer	375ml	2.5% Alc./Vol

Due to different ways that alcohol is consumed, there is no amount of alcohol that can be said to be safe for everyone.

## Volunteers get moving

Foster's staff volunteers have really got behind "Project Refresh – Protecting our Inland Waterways", a joint initiative of Foster's and our community partner Conservation Volunteers Australia. Kicking off in April and running until early July, the project encompasses 11 practical restoration projects at waterways

around Foster's worksites. Teams from Darwin (Northern Territory) and Yatala (Queensland) participated in the first two projects, each concluding with the customary team barbeque.



*Foster's employees from Yatala Brewery revegetating local bush land*

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