



## Green Table Accreditation in sight for Epicure and Melbourne Town Hall with Beyond Energy and Water

### About Epicure

Epicure is a catering company that has built a reputation for excellence. The company is a market leader in eco-friendly catering that operates in a range of premium venues and major events. Epicure endeavours to provide environmentally sustainable menus and support local producers and communities in the purchase of their products. This reduces the 'food miles' travelled by the produce which reduces Epicure's carbon footprint.

### Epicure needs

Restaurant & Catering Australia launched Green Tables Australia - the first environmental accreditation scheme for the hospitality industry, in October 2008. In conjunction with the City of Melbourne and Restaurant & Catering Victoria, Epicure is working with one of its own key venues, the Melbourne Town Hall, to achieve Green Table accreditation. Epicure needed direction in how to further their own environmental sustainability program and how to implement Green Table Australia's accreditation requirements.

These requirements include using natural gas to run stoves or purchasing a minimum of 20% green electricity; composting organic waste; recycling paper, plastic, glass and metal; using energy efficient equipment and lighting; using water saving equipment and fixtures, and using recycled, biodegradable and non-toxic supplies.

### ecovantage solution

**ecovantage** used the Beyond Energy and Water program to undertake a complete energy, water and waste assessment of Melbourne Town Hall's catering operations. The assessment included the Melbourne Town Hall's ten function rooms, four kitchens, an office, and shared areas to determine current energy and water usage patterns. The assessment also identified opportunities to reduce waste and subsequently increase cost savings.

**ecovantage** calculated a carbon footprint of greenhouse gas emissions based on energy use and waste generation. The assessment included a site visit, engagement of staff where required, the use of specialist refrigeration and cleaning consultants, and a detailed assessment report. The report provided recommendations with estimated costs and benefits to enable Epicure and Melbourne Town Hall to decide next steps.

**ecovantage** provided a detailed action plan to ensure that Epicure meets Green Table accreditation requirements at the Melbourne Town Hall premises.