

## A charter for leading sustainable steel contracting companies

Twenty one steelwork contractors and steel processors have now joined the ASI Environmental Sustainability Charter (ESC).

This involves a public declaration for these companies to run their companies along sustainable lines and to drive their businesses toward the 10 Charter points using primarily an environmental management scheme set up for SMEs to British standard BS 8555.

National Marketing Manager, **David Ryan** who runs the scheme for the ASI, said that steelwork contractors who have signed up to the scheme were generally those who were in the building market and who were looking at showing leadership in the environmental area.

A recently established ASI Environmental Sustainability (ESC) Charter Group website provides builders with access to locate a Charter member, gives an oversight to the scheme and more importantly allows Charter members to manage their EMS online. This web-based platform then gives private access to the ASI Environmental Scientist for mentoring and audit purposes.

This web site is accessible at <http://ems.steel.org.au>

Note: The Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) has acknowledged the scheme in the awarding of one Green Star point for builders who contract an eligible ASI Charter Member.

Construction clients are increasingly looking for sustainable construction and for like-minded companies who operate in a sustainable manner.

The ASI ESC was launched to establish a mechanism for clients, specifiers and designers to determine what a sustainable steel fabrication and processing company is and how to identify one.

Those achieving Charter status need to satisfy the auditor on a range of requirements in the 5-step EMS process, including a published and management endorsed sustainability policy, and monitoring progress towards sustainability using the BS 8555 standard.

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