



ALDI Stores
(A Limited Partnership)
1 Sargents Road
Minchinbury NSW 2770

Media Statement

Friday 31 October, 2008

ALDI PROVES GREEN BUSINESS IS GOOD BUSINESS

ALDI Stores have won the Westpac Corporate Sustainability Award at the Environmental Protection Agency Sustainable Industries Awards held this evening on the Gold Coast.

Viktor Jakupec, Managing Director, ALDI Stores, Queensland said the award reaffirms the importance of striving to be a green retailer.

"The pursuit of environmental sustainability requires commitment and upfront investment but when the systems are embedded – the results are not just environmental, they can be economic as well," he said.

"ALDI is heavily committed to ensuring environmental sustainability is central to its business operations.

"We are saving millions of dollars from not providing disposable plastic bags and by reducing the number of truck journeys - proving environmental business is good business.

"We are heavily committed to making environmental sustainability a core principal in our business. Everything from store design to transportation and supplier arrangements have systems in place to reduce energy consumption, carbon emissions and general waste output," he said.

"ALDI has championed a number of environmental initiatives over the years, but the one we are particularly proud of is our plastic bag policy. We do not provide customers with free plastic bags, instead we sell them durable, re-usable bags."

Despite the fact that customers initially greeted this policy with sheer disbelief when ALDI first opened in Australia in 2001, Mr Jakupec said the tide had turned in the last 7 years and customers were now more aware and more supportive.

"Last year alone, we sold over 7 million re-usable bags. We estimate this prevented the disposal of a staggering 150 million disposable plastic bags."

Mr Jakupec said that ALDI has also achieved environmental efficiencies with its Queensland fleet of 20 trucks. The unique moveable bulkhead system allows a single truck to deliver a

combination of frozen goods, fresh food and non-perishable items in one load. The flexibility of this system allows ALDI to develop a complex grocery delivery schedule to multiple stores on one truck journey. Without this innovative transportation system, ALDI estimates it would need to undertake an additional 400 truck journeys every year.

“Tonight’s awards highlight a major shift in attitude and commitment by business to the principles of environmental innovation and sustainability.”

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