

THE laminex GROUP

MEDIA RELEASE
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THE LAMINEX GROUP HONOURED FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY AT CIPS AWARDS



L-R: Lian Knight (Procurement Manager), Martha Padinis (Procurement & Supply Coordinator), Arnis Kazakevics (Technology Manager), Graeme Allen (Group Systems & Sustainability Manager). Missing were Lloyd Gamble, Brian Bennett, Martin Barrow, Wayne Rheinberger.

The Laminex Group, the leading marketer, distributor and manufacturer of decorative surfaces throughout Australia and New Zealand, toasted victory at the annual CIPS (Chartered Institute for Purchasing Supply) Australasia Procurement Professional Awards in Melbourne this month.

Recognising The Laminex Group's ongoing commitment to sourcing and manufacturing products to support a sustainable building industry, the company was jointly awarded the 'Best Example of Socially Responsible Procurement' category, along with multinational mining and resources group, Rio Tinto.

There are nine categories within the Awards that acknowledge the varied contribution organisations within the private and public sectors are making throughout the professional procurement and supply chain management industries.

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The Laminex Group Procurement Manager, Lian Knight, said this is the first time The Laminex Group has received a CIPS Award which demonstrates the company's innovation, forward-thinking and leadership within the sustainable building industry.

"We're very proud to have our ongoing investment and commitment to developing and fostering a 'greener' building industry officially recognised. We're also thrilled to share the Award with a globally recognised leader like Rio Tinto."

In July, The Laminex Group submitted an application for the CIPS Awards that outlined the positive work the organisation has championed over the last 12 months to foster a sustainable building industry:

- The Laminex Group transitioned of all its MDF (Medium Density Fibreboard) products from E1 to the even lower formaldehyde E0 and this move has been extended to all its raw and decorated MDF products. Such low emission products help to accrue valuable Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) points in the Green Star Materials Calculator
- The organisation has become the first Australian supplier to achieve ecospecifier GreenTag™ GreenRate Level A certification – one of the most respected third party certifications in Australasia. Certification has been achieved for all its raw and decorated MDF surfaces
- The Laminex Group has three FSC® Chain of Custody (CoC) certified sites and four AFS/PEFC (Australian Forestry Standard/Programme for Endorsement of Certification Schemes) CoC sites. This set of certifications ensures all certified wood is sourced from responsibly managed forests and able to be traced from processing through to distribution.

Knight said a cross functional team, supported by The Laminex Group's Procurement department, has played a huge part in the success of the organisation with their ongoing environmental sustainability initiatives. One such initiative was gaining the commitment of and assisting many reluctant overseas suppliers of raw materials achieve their own FSC accreditation to broaden the range of CoC compliant products.

"At the Laminex Group, we have an ongoing commitment to push boundaries, challenge best practice and give building and design professionals more choice when sourcing and specifying sustainable building products. We will continue to move even further in the 'green' sphere over the coming years, so our customers reap the commercial and environmental benefits," Knight said.

To find out more about The Laminex Group's sustainable practices and product offerings, please visit www.thelaminexgroup.com.au/greenfirst

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