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## **Australia's first one-stop energy efficiency centre opens**

Australia's most extensive display of energy efficient technology, advice and appliances has been brought together under one roof at EnergyAustralia's new Energy Efficiency Centre.

The Energy Efficiency Centre highlights energy use in homes, offices and commercial businesses through hands-on displays and real examples of energy efficient appliances and how to use them.

"This centre is the first of its kind in the country," EnergyAustralia Managing Director George Maltabarow said.

"This centre gives people the practical advice they need, under one roof, to understand how much energy they use, what appliances are energy efficient, and how to reduce to their energy use without affecting their lifestyle.

"Energy efficiency is the first and simplest step when it comes to reducing our greenhouse impact. It's something every household, every business and every factory can do, once you know how.

"EnergyAustralia's research showed that that 90 percent of households wanted to be energy efficient, but 70 percent of them didn't know how. This centre helps bridge that gap.

"Using less energy by being energy efficient is one way we can push our bills down and reduce our carbon footprint at the same time."

Tradespeople including plumbers, electricians and lighting specialists who provide advice on appliances will be targeted to use the centre. It will also be available to schools and other groups.

"Tradespeople are big influences when it comes to making decisions about what appliances we install from lighting, to heating and hot water systems, so the centre is a valuable one-stop-shop for these groups."

Using hands-on displays, the EnergyAustralia Energy Efficiency Centre highlights eight aspects of energy:

- Climate change
- Understanding your energy use (including how interval meters or smart meters can help)
- Hot water
- Household appliances
- Heating and cooling
- The office
- Lighting
- Commercial and industrial businesses.

The centre builds on a number of energy efficiency programs by EnergyAustralia to help homes and businesses including a hot water replacement program, a second fridge retirement program energy efficient light giveaways and energy audits.

The EnergyAustralia Energy Efficiency Centre is now open to visitors. It also features a meeting room which is available for hire for seminars and events. All visitor bookings can be made at [energyefficiency@energy.com.au](mailto:energyefficiency@energy.com.au)

The EnergyAustralia Energy Efficiency Centre is located at Unit 11, 11- 21 Underwood Road, Homebush.

More information and tips on energy efficiency are available on EnergyAustralia's website [www.energy.com.au](http://www.energy.com.au).

**Media contact: EnergyAustralia News Pager 02 9966 7985.**

### EnergyAustralia Energy Efficiency Centre Highlights

At the centre visitors will be able to:

- Take a virtual shower to see the difference shorter showers and energy efficient showerheads make to energy and water use. Step inside a 'green' and a 'brown' office and see the difference. Also learn why laptops use less energy than desktop computers.
- Take a look at the most energy efficient kitchen and laundry appliances. Click on a wall display of real appliances (hairdryer, coffee maker etc) and watch them activate an in house display and see how much energy they use.
- Compare the difference between gas and electric heating and cooling systems and learn how to choose the best one for your home or business.
- See how interval meters – or smart meters – and time-based pricing can give households more control over their energy use and bill.
- Use thermal imaging technology to understand the impact of heat on lighting costs and how to reduce it. Includes sound and light displays on sensor lighting, LEDs and energy efficient light globes.
- Inspect ice storage cooling. Open a chilling chamber and handle balls of frozen liquid which are frozen overnight (in the off peak) and thawed when needed to cool industrial buildings during the day (in the peak). An innovative way to help reduce peak demand, which is better for the environment and reduces energy costs for businesses.