CASE STUDY
FOOD PROCESSING
AND PRODUCTION
BUDERIM GINGER

Exporting its products globally, Buderim Ginger also boasts a world-standard factory. Under ecoBiz, the company carefully manages and saves on all water, energy and heating inputs.

CRUSHING THE ECO CHALLENGE
Buderim Ginger is a well-known Queensland company. With a national and international profile, the Yandina-based company processes locally grown ginger into a variety of consumer products. However, with a diverse product line-up and the processing and packaging equipment to match, its eco footprint was considerable. Not any more.

STEPPING INTO INPUTS
With the help of an ecoBiz rebate, the company installed a Sessil trickling filter system. The filter treats wastewater and reduces trade waste costs. Buderim Ginger coupled this with a membrane batch reactor that helps reduce overall water usage. Going a step further, the company fitted energy-reducing technologies on ventilation, air-conditioning and the boiler system.

FINISHED PRODUCT
Through the combination of all these upgrades, Buderim Ginger has greatly reduced both its environmental impact and its costs. For such a diversified company to record such results with facility-level measures says a great deal about how applying the right methods in the right places can get real results.

ANNUAL SAVINGS

- **GHG EMISSIONS** 926 TONNES
- **WASTE** 402 m³
- **POTABLE WATER** 28,079 KL
- **TOTAL AVOIDED COSTS** $355,411

Savings as at December 2007

BUDERIM GINGER
Buderim Ginger is a food producer based on the Sunshine Coast that globally exports a suite of products based around the region’s vibrant ginger farming industry.

ECOBIZ OBJECTIVE
Account for and manage resource inputs and outputs to contain financial and environmental costs.

ACTION PLAN HIGHLIGHTS
- Installation of a Sessil Trickling filter system to treat wastewater and reduce trade waste costs.
- Installation of a membrane batch reactor to reduce total water use.
- Installation of energy-reducing technologies for ventilation, air-conditioning and boilers.

ANNUAL SAVINGS
- The 21 per cent energy saving is equivalent to the power use of 183 Queensland homes. In precise terms, that’s a saving of 9,992,871 MJ.
- Greenhouse gas emissions have come down 926.15 tonnes CO2-e (18 per cent). That’s equal to 232 cars.
- Potable water usage has decreased 24 per cent, enough to fill 11 Olympic swimming pools (28,079 kL).
- Solid waste disposal is down 402 cubic-metres (24 per cent), or 1,675 full wheelie bins.
- The bottom line: efficiency efforts have saved Buderim Ginger $355,411 each year.