

## MEAT INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENT NETWORK 2016-2017

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### Project Description

The Meat Industry Environment Network provides a means to share information on the research, development and extension (RD&E) activities relating to AMPC's Environment and Sustainability RD&E program. It promotes engagement with environment manager from processing establishments, researchers, regulators and industry consultants to ensure that all parties are meeting new regulatory requirements and that new information is disseminated.

The network also provides a means of showcasing new technologies and initiatives being undertaken by meat processing plants and other industries such as energy efficiency, water harvesting and reuse, solid waste management, greenhouse gas emissions management. Funding for this project in 2016-2017 included three state-based network meetings. The filmed site visits were produced into showcase clips including interviews with site managers and engineers for loading onto the AMPC website.

The project aims to create a network where processors can share information and ideas about current and ongoing research and development in environment and sustainability. It also provides a means to transfer knowledge from AMPC's environment project and R&D outcomes to the meat processing industry. This has been achieved in part through a series of informative showcase films which promote the positive way the industry has been addressing environmental issues. These films have been shown at network meeting where they have been well received and generate discussion among the attendees.

The Environment Network meetings act as a communication channel between industry, regulators, researchers and consultants. It helps ensure the dissemination of R&D outcomes to the industry and has provide a means for attendees to gain information on the progress of current AMPC research projects.



### Project Content

In 2016-2017 three showcase clips were filmed for this project:

1. The waste water system at Thomas Foods International's Murray Bridge facility – a low energy, highly efficient system which recovers valuable resources from the waste water while meeting all the relevant legislative and licensing requirements and improving the environmental outcomes for the local community
2. The water reuse and recycle at Teys Hide Processing Plant in Murgon – the plant now recycles every wastewater stream and reuses it wherever they can, uses sludge to make compost and has reduced the waste leaving the plant to just one skip bin a week.
3. The lab at the University of Queensland's Advanced Water Management Center (AWMC) where they are undertaking research for AMPC on effective and low cost management of water resources and using waste water streams for feedstock and value added products.

The clips are available for viewing on [the AMPC website](#).

Funding for this project also included three state-based network meeting, scheduled for Tamworth, Brisbane and Melbourne. The agenda for all the meetings included an overview of AMPC's environmental portfolio and projects and updates on AMPC funded projects; an overview of MINTRAC activities; and the showing of films from the environmental innovation series.

### Benefit for Industry

The project provided a network where processors can share information and ideas about current and ongoing research and development in environment and sustainability.

It also provided a means to transfer knowledge from AMPC's environment project and R&D outcomes to the meat processing industry. This has been achieved in part through a series of informative showcase films which promote the positive way the industry has been addressing environmental issues. These films have been shown at network meetings where they have been well received and generate discussion among the attendees.

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