

Bowens invests \$1.2M for a sustainable future

Bowens, a fourth-generation, family-owned Australian business and market leader in supplying the largest variety of quality timber and building supplies in Australia, leads construction industry sustainability as they commit to reducing their carbon footprint with newly installed Power Factor Correction Units (PFCs) and Solar Modules.

As Australia experiences a surge of new home builds and renovations up 33% since 2019, Bowens demonstrates an ongoing commitment to reduced carbon emissions as a first step to tackling the output of Australian construction, as the sector makes up 18.1% of Australia's carbon footprint¹.

Investing over \$1.2M into the project, **Bowens** is introducing efforts to improve energy efficiencies across their stores and contribute cleaner energy to the grid through the installation of solar panels and Power Factor Correction Units (PFCs).

The PFCs are installed by Energy Aware across all 16 stores, with the solar installation of 1,386 modules taking place by Beon Energy Solutions at Bowens manufacturing subsidiary Timbertruss in Corio, Geelong. The Timbertruss solar panel installation alone will reduce Bowens energy reliance by up to a third of current yearly use.

Bowens Chief Investment Officer, Andy Bowen, says: "The world around us has seen a heightened focus on the environmental impacts of corporations and governments both big and small. It is our duty as an industry leader to play a positive role in this movement and do what we can - from recycling waste to reducing our power consumption.

"Sustainability and energy efficiency is at the forefront of senior management's long term strategic decision making. The business is investing millions of dollars in upgrading our stores and facilities, making sure that we minimise our carbon footprint at every turn.

"Our ongoing commitment to helping Australians build better includes addressing long term challenges that face our industry by investing responsibly in sustainable practices. We will continue to prioritise sustainable business decisions as we deliver the highest quality building materials for all Australian builders," says Bowen.

The construction industry, by its very nature, is a big user of natural resources. While timber is a highly sustainable building material in terms of long term supply, climate change remains a broader concern for all Australian industries. Business leaders must consider how short term responsible investment protects long term output.

Beon Energy Solutions' Business Development Manager, Jeremy Mugavin said the project was worthy of celebration.

"We're pleased to partner with Bowens for this project, which is a great example of a progressive business investing in sustainable power alternatives to reduce their carbon footprint. Together with our partners at Next Generation Electrical, we're proud to have delivered this installation on time and to the highest safety standards" Mr Mugavin said.

¹ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877705817316879>

The mammoth project at Timbertruss includes 1,386 Trina Solar Modules in an almost \$1 million investment in a cleaner energy future for Bowens and their subsidiaries.

The building industry is experiencing an undercurrent of sustainable demand, as consumers become more conscious of their footprints they must be able to rely on suppliers to reflect this in their practices. Bowens investment demonstrates an ongoing commitment to their customers across trade and retail.

As Bowens unveils new brand refurbishments and new store locations across the state, sustainable initiatives will remain front of mind as a long term priority for the business.

To find out more about Bowens initiatives and timelines, visit: <https://www.bowens.com.au/>

-Ends -

For more information please contact thrive pr:

Christy LaPlante
E: christy.laplante@thrivepr.com.au
M: 0439 246 489

Tess McDonald
E: tess.mcdonald@thrivepr.com.au
M: 0430 766 401

About Bowens

Bowens is a fourth-generation, family-owned Australian business supplying the largest variety of quality building supplies in the country for over 127 years. Bowens supports all trade customers with industry trained, experienced sales representatives helping with onsite advice and product support, ensuring no down time occurs and that materials arrive on time and in full. In addition to delivery and click + collect services, Bowens operates across 16 stores throughout Melbourne and regional Victoria. For more information visit [bowens.com.au](https://www.bowens.com.au).