



Media Release

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AISF partners with EPA to guide the surface finishing industry to a sustainable future

The Australasian Institute of Surface Finishing and EPA Victoria signed a Sustainability Covenant agreement to raise the bar in environmental performance in the surface finishing industry.

This partnership was launched at EPA Offices in Carlton on July 20th. AISF's Victorian President Keith Coombe was joined by EPA's CEO, John Merritt to officially sign the agreement

"The AISF is in a unique position to lead the surface finishing industry towards improved environmental performance and best practice standards" John Merritt said "The Covenant supports businesses in this industry sector to not only fulfil their environmental compliance obligations but also strive for ways to go above and beyond compliance and become leaders. he said.

A key driver for change for this industry has been the Victorian Governments commitment to eliminate the disposal of PIW to landfill by 2020, which poses significant threat to the surface finishing industry.

Through the covenant, EPA and AISF will work collaboratively to develop tools and practices to reduce trade waste and prescribed industrial waste (PIW) disposed to landfill, as well as research and development of innovative technologies, to avoid, reuse and recycle PIW wastes and drive resource efficiency gains in water and energy.

AISF commits to educate organisations about their compliance obligations, improve stakeholder knowledge of the environmental impact of the sector, and provide support to organisations to implement best practice processes. Thus creating a more resource efficient, higher performing industry

"The AISF is delighted to be driving change from within industry to bring about the most significant environmental initiative this sector has ever seen" Keith Coombe said

This covenant will assist AISF to develop a viable solution to the legislative targets of PIW reduction for industry, as well as provide the avenue to secure funding for new technologies and improvement measures in the wider surface finishing community.

Media Contact:
Sharon Campbell - AISF
aisf@aisf.org.au