



Enterprising Australian company takes government sustainability rating to India

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NABERS – The National Australian Built Environment Rating System, announced another significant milestone today as the Paharpur Business Centre (PBC) in New Dehli became the first building outside of Australia to receive an official NABERS Indoor Environment rating.

Best known for its energy rating tools, NABERS has received significant attention internationally for its positive impact on the market for energy efficiency retrofits in the Australian office sector. In 2013 this attention converted into a license agreement with the New Zealand government.

The rating conducted at PBC focused on the indoor environment quality of the building. It was calculated by using objective measurements of the thermal comfort, lighting, air quality and acoustics, as well as controlled measurements of occupant satisfaction.

The building received a 4-star rating, which translates to 'very good indoor environment quality' on the NABERS scale. Like all NABERS ratings, it was conducted by an independent third party accredited assessor. PBC's assessor was Dr. Vyt Garnys, the Managing Director of Melbourne based CETEC.

Dr. Garnys has been travelling to India on trade missions for the Victorian Government since 2010. Today he presented the CEO of PBC, Mr Kamal Meattle, with their certificate and a commemorative plaque in the presence of a Counsellor from the Australian High Commission.

"Measurement of indoor environment quality (IEQ) in office buildings is now essential for modern competitive businesses. Research has linked IEQ to occupant health and comfort. Investors realise the social responsibilities of sustainability." Said Dr. Garnys.

"Being performance based, a NABERS IE rating provides proof that the technologies which have been implemented at PBC have been commissioned well, are being managed well, and are providing tangible benefits to its occupants in the form of a more comfortable and healthy workplace." He said.

Director of the Metropolitan Branch at the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage Mr. Tom Grosskopf said, "This rating shows that the team at PBC understand that operating a truly sustainable building means not just minimising its impact on the environment, but also maximising the wellbeing of the people who occupy it."

"As the first NABERS Indoor Environment rating to be certified outside of Australia, this achievement also marks another positive milestone for collaboration between India and Australia. And where better to collaborate than in the area of sustainability – progress in which is so critical to the success of both our countries." He said

For further information on NABERS go to www.nabers.gov.au or email nabers@environment.nsw.gov.au