

FiRM joins the “Bin There Done That” program

During December 2009 FiRM continued to support the University’s environmental initiatives by joining the “Bin There Done That” program. The program aims to reduce the amount of landfill waste generated by the University by removing under desk waste bins.

Waste audits have shown that 75% of office waste at Monash is made up of recyclable material. To encourage the recycling of any paper, plastics or glass that is normally found in office bins, all of the bins in the FiRM offices were removed.

Each office now has a small desktop bin for wrappers, tissues etc which collect during the day - each staff member then empties his/her bin into the kitchen waste bin. So rather than automatically throwing all waste into a bin under the desk, the habit to reduce and recycle is being reinforced.

An added benefit is that the cleaning staff no longer visit every office, every evening, to check and empty the under desk bins. Since the cleaners were required to check each office, should a staff member be away on leave, or the office be temporarily vacant, the result was a considerable amount of wasted effort to check empty bins. As an offset to the bin replacement program the cleaner’s contract has been modified so that other tasks related to the recycle paper collection activity are now included in their daily duties.



FiRM’s Yvonne Kumar and Ratna Dewi take delivery of their desk top bins