

LEGAL SECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHT:
REPORT OF AusLSA MEMBERS

FROM THE AusLSA CHAIR

We are very pleased to present the third annual AusLSA environmental report. Since launching a little over 18 months ago our membership has increased to 41 members, including all of the top 10 law firms in Australia.

This year 27 AusLSA Members have chosen to submit environmental data to AusLSA and of those, 24 have chosen to publish their report. These firms should be congratulated for making a public commitment to accountability and transparency of their environmental impacts.

By sharing our environmental reports, by engaging with other AusLSA members and the AusLSA program, we remain hopeful that all Australian law firms can reduce their impact on our increasingly fragile environment.



Kelvin O'Connor
COO, Henry Davis York



David Rennick
CEO, Maddocks

EMERGING INDUSTRY STATISTICS

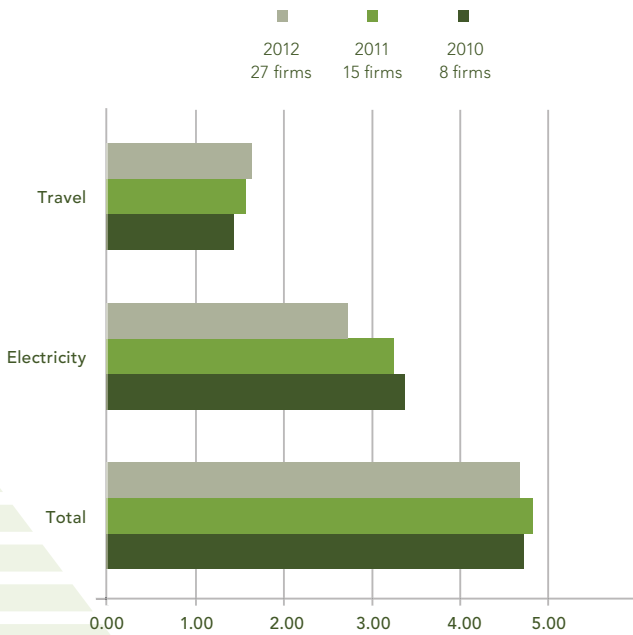
Over time, AusLSA aims to develop industry benchmarks for environmental performance. Based on this year's data, we have sorted Members into group based on their geographic spread and assessed the average profile for each group along with the lowest impact for each parameter.

NO. FIRMS	SINGLE-STATE		TWO-STATE		NATIONAL		INTERNATIONAL	
	Lowest	Average	Lowest	Average	Lowest	Average	Lowest	Average
	8		9		5		5	
Headcount (Aus-based)		140		237		920		994
CO ₂ per head (CO ₂ e tonnes)	2.28	2.83	1.81	3.55	2.24	3.91	4.37	7.82
Electricity CO ₂ per head (CO ₂ e tonnes)	1.24	2.10	1.50	2.49	1.88	2.66	1.39	3.00
Flights CO ₂ per head (CO ₂ e tonnes)	0.08	0.49	0.08	0.97	0.34	1.19	0.77	4.66
Travel CO ₂ per head (CO ₂ e tonnes)	0.09	0.73	0.28	1.05	0.36	1.25	0.85	4.81
Paper use per head (kg)	51.30	118.68	80.96	127.44	80.78	115.74	71.44	117.38

Having studied the firm in their groupings the following observations can be made:

- CO₂ emissions per head increase with expanding jurisdiction. There could be a number of reasons for this, such as:
 - Electricity consumption per head tends to be higher when there are more locations and the firms are bigger;
 - Air travel tends to be greater for multi-location firms and notably for those firms with international connections; and
 - It's easier to introduce change in smaller firms.
- Paper consumption per head does not appear to be impacted by the size of the firm nor the number of its geographic locations.

CO₂ EMISSIONS PER HEAD (ALL REPORTING MEMBERS)



TRENDS

Due to the small, but increasing, number of Reporting Members, caution should be used in applying significance to annual changes.

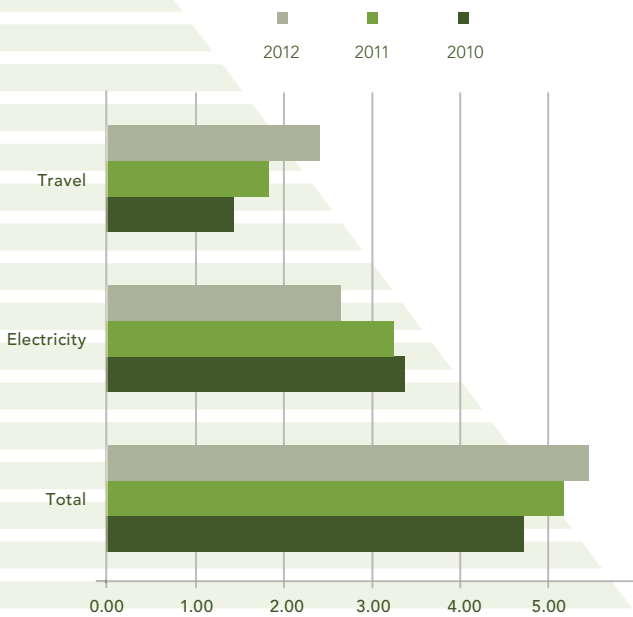
ELECTRICITY USE IS DECREASING

Emissions from the use of electricity are decreasing. Since FY2010, emissions from electricity, calculated on a per head basis, have decreased by 9.5% from 3.28t CO₂e to 2.92t CO₂e. Looking at individual firms, 12 of 15 firms reporting in FY2011 have achieved reductions in the last year.

TRAVEL IS INCREASING

Overall, travel emissions (primarily flights) have increased by 14%, from 1.45t CO₂e to 1.65 t CO₂e per head since FY2010. Of the 15 firms that reported their emissions last year, 5 managed substantial reductions and 5 reported smaller (but still significant) reductions in flight emissions. The remaining 5 firms reported substantial increases in flight emissions ranging from 15% to 119%. These increases can be partly explained by changing operations: either opening a new office interstate or having been involved in a merger with an overseas firm.

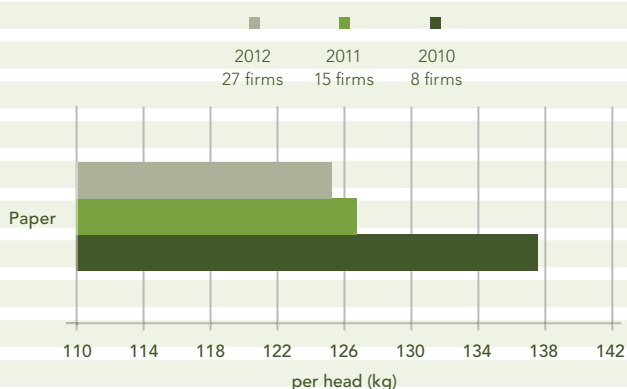
CO₂ EMISSIONS PER HEAD (EXECUTIVE MEMBERS)



PAPER USE IS DECREASING

In a very positive outcome, overall paper has been reduced by nearly 11% (on a per head basis) from 140kg per person to 125kg per person since FY2010. Please note that the scope of reporting on paper use has been altered for FY2012 requiring re-calculation (including estimations) of data from previous years.

PAPER CONSUMPTION PER HEAD



CARBON OFFSETTING IS INCREASING

Since 2010, the use of carbon offsetting by AusLSA Members has increased from 2 of 8 reporting firms in 2010, to 10 of 27 firms in 2012. The number of offsets purchased has also increased; total offsets have increased nearly 300% and the average per firm has increased 133%.