

FPH embedding Sustainable Practices across the business

A commitment to sustainability at Flinders Port Holdings (FPH) means the organisation will act positively to achieve sustainable outcomes, minimise harm to the environment and work to be at one with its communities and the environment, while ensuring financial and operational resilience now and into the future.

It's great to talk about sustainability, but putting it into practice is more important, along with committing to make changes that will make a difference going forward. One important factor in the sustainability chain is making sure logistics are finely tuned, whether it be in the way FPH operates and organises shipping and container movements in and out of its ports, stevedoring or in the equipment it procures to facilitate that movement.

Ensuring FPH purchases equipment and machinery which is sustainable in the long-term, including in its fuel efficiency, is essential. FPH recently purchased five Noell Diesel Battery Hybrid Straddle Carriers, which will be the first Konecranes Noell Diesel Battery Hybrid Straddles in the Asia Pacific region.

Fitted with a battery module that will capture power during braking and lowering, the new straddles will offer fuel savings of approximately 32.5 per cent without compromising on performance. Over the nominal life of the straddle (approximately 50,000 operating hours), the hybrid model provides an estimated 415t of carbon dioxide reduction when compared to its comparable diesel-electric model. The five new straddles will be delivered later in 2023.

While saving on fuel, FPH will use smart technology to optimise usage of the straddles, to enable it to avoid unnecessary lifts or movements.

"Sustainability at Flinders Port Holdings is essential, and it relates to more than just reducing our carbon footprint or using electric vehicles," Group Environment Manager Katrina Nagle said.

"It's about sustainable port development, using renewable-based energy, integrating sustainability into our planning and decision making, and minimising pollution and waste. We're working with our employees, partners, suppliers, customers, and our local communities across South Australia to be socially responsible."

Investing in more sustainable equipment, such as the straddles and electric vehicles, is helping to future-proof FPH by developing resilient infrastructure and more efficient operations. It allows FPH to embrace technology and innovation to reduce its environmental impact, increase health and safety and facilitate a smoother experience for customers.

As a vertically integrated business FPH's responsibilities don't end at its various ports across South Australia, or just in logistics. The organisation's leadership has embedded sustainable practice across FPH from its ports to freight forwarding, logistics, warehousing, and supply chain partners, on the water and on the wharves.

FPH launched its first Sustainability Plan in 2020 and in late 2022 launched its second edition. The plan has helped FPH to concentrate on the wider environment, how every element can play a role in contributing towards more sustainable operations, and how the organisation can improve how it works.

Sustainability is becoming a part of everything FPH does – its long-term planning, investment decision-making, supply chain management and employee satisfaction.

That also includes environment, social and governance (ESG). These areas of risk and opportunity are an increasing focus for institutional investors and shareholders, and for consumers and employees that are conscious of the impacts of business on ethical and societal concerns.

Sustainability is essential to the long-term growth and resilience of FPH's business and the economy, as well as for the wellbeing of people and the natural environment – including lowering emissions and supporting the monitoring of water quality. The cleaner and greener the working environment for the FPH team across all working sites, including regional ports and corporate offices, the more the environment and the neighbouring communities will benefit.

Everyone at FPH plays a role in achieving ESG goals, with the impact of its work on the environment and the community a particular priority. Through its annual cultural survey, workers have told the leadership team they want the organisation to have an active involvement in community and environmental outcomes. They also want FPH to grow its business and strengthen its economic contribution. The ideas and involvement of its people is vitally important to the success of its sustainability plan, and for the organisation as we move towards an increasingly green future.





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