

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of water with numerous bubbles of various sizes. The bubbles are in sharp focus in the foreground and become more blurred towards the background, creating a sense of depth. The overall color palette is a range of blues, from light cyan to a deeper, darker blue.

The Business Impacts of Climate Change and Green IT

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Content

- ◆ The reality of climate change on business
- ◆ Business impacts
- ◆ Impacts on the VET Sector
- ◆ Green IT
- ◆ ICT industry Green IT Special Interest Group



Is Climate Change Real?

It does not matter whether:

- ◆ you are a *climate change* believer or sceptic
- ◆ you believe that *climate change* is the result of human activity or a natural cycle
- ◆ you believe the predicted effects of *climate change* are over- or understated.

◆ **WHY?**



Is Climate Change Real?

BECAUSE:

- ◆ Governments are legislating to reduce carbon emissions at a cost to business.
- ◆ Your clients now include environmental considerations into their purchasing decisions.
- ◆ Investors now evaluate a company's environmental credentials and the cost of carbon emissions in their investment decisions.
- ◆ Shareholders and staff do not want to be associated with organisations with poor environmental credentials.



Is Climate Change Real?

The perception and reaction to *climate change* ***is real*** and is now an important business driver in Australia.



Federal Government Action – Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme

CPRS comprises

- ◆ National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme (NGERS) became law on July 1, 2008
- ◆ Australian Emissions Trading Scheme (2010)



Key Elements of NGERs

- ◆ Three Levels (Scopes) of Reporting
- ◆ Scopes 1 and 2 are mandatory but relate to a small number of companies (400 >1000 over 3 years)
- ◆ Scope 3 is voluntary
- ◆ Scope 3 captures the carbon footprint of a company's supply chain
- ◆ NGERs reports are public
- ◆ NGERs data will influence policy formulation of all Australian governments



Will Companies Report under Scope 3?

YES – Why?

- ◆ Investor Pressure
- ◆ Changes to legislation
- ◆ Customer Pressure
- ◆ Competitive Pressure
- ◆ Corporate Social Responsibility



Likely Impacts of NGRS

- ◆ Reporting leads to greater awareness of problem
- ◆ Publicity surrounding company reports will impact on company profits.
- ◆ Immediate pressure to AVOID and reduce emissions and energy use
- ◆ Procurement becomes strategic
- ◆ Companies open to innovation and thought leadership from suppliers
- ◆ Standardise reporting parameters and formats



Likely Impacts of NGERS

- ◆ Increased energy costs
- ◆ Compliance costs will be passed on to customers
- ◆ Business uncertainty



Implications for the VET sector?

- ◆ Will need to comply with legislation, government policy and social expectations
- ◆ Audit, measure, monitor, report and reduce your carbon footprint
- ◆ Commercial opportunities and threats in meeting student and employee expectations
- ◆ Need to understand the contribution of ICT to your carbon footprint



Implications for the VET sector?

- ◆ Opportunity to introduce new courses dealing with the skills business needs in auditing, managing and reporting their carbon footprint.
- ◆ Credibility at stake if sustainability course content is not authoritative
- ◆ Must have expert content reference groups to validate course content



How important is GREEN IT?

- ◆ ICT accounts for around 2% of total global emissions. (SMART 2020)
- ◆ IT and office equipment typically contribute between 30% and 40% of the carbon footprint of 'service based ' organisations. (Deloitte)
- ◆ Over 1 billion computers are likely to be scrapped between now and 2010 but 55% of companies in the US have no plans for how to dispose of this equipment and most of it currently goes to landfill. (IBM)



How important is GREEN IT?

- ◆ Windows Vista using 3 watts per hour compared to XP's 100 watts per hour, (IDG News Service).
- ◆ A search on Google uses as much energy as an energy-efficient light-bulb burns in an hour. (German IT firm Strato at CeBIT 2008)
- ◆ More than *300 million* used toner and inkjet cartridges end up in US landfills every year.
- It takes 10 times more energy to produce a sheet of paper than to print on it. (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)



What should you do now?

BE PROACTIVE

- ◆ Audit and report on your organisation's carbon footprint using the NERS guidelines
- ◆ Promote your understanding and actions to your customers and students
- ◆ Review course content and the opportunity to introduce new courses targeting sustainability auditing and reporting
- ◆ Remain conversant and proactive with developments in the auditing and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and energy usage.
- ◆ Join the ICT Industry GREEN IT Special Interest Group



Awareness
Knowledge
Adoption

www.acs.org/greenit

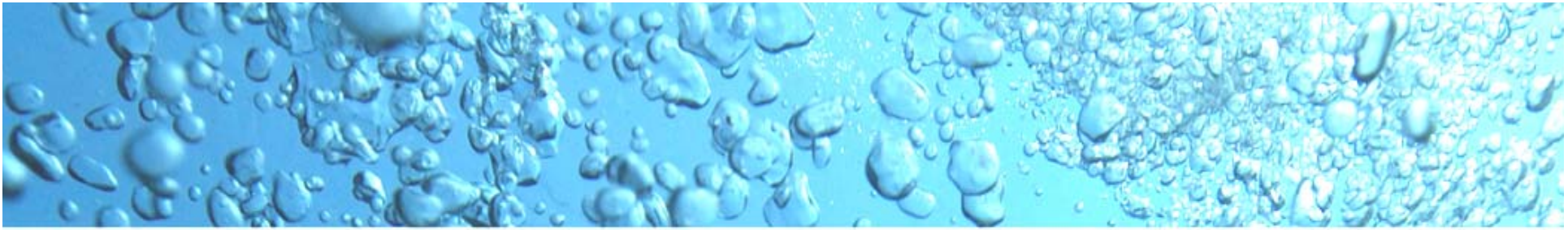
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Business success in a changing climate

To borrow an expression from
Charles Darwin ...

**“It's not the strongest of the
species who survive, nor the
most intelligent, but the ones
most responsive to change.”**



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