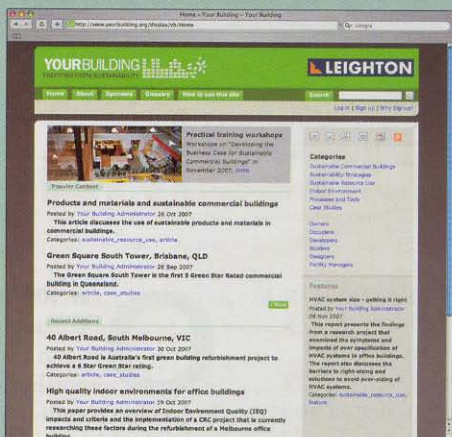


INTERACTION

Green networking



Online social networking technology has been put to use by the commercial property sector with the launch of a new \$1.5 million online encyclopaedia and networking tool to help create green and profitable commercial buildings. Designed to function as a wiki – a collaborative web tool – Your Building is available at www.yourbuilding.org and creates an online community whose members can add their own content, post comments, listen to podcasts and contact each other. The project is a joint initiative of the Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO), the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Construction Innovation and the Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council (ASBEC). Your Building uses internet links to pool thousands of individual sources of information on current sustainability practices, regulation, technological innovations and case studies. How-to guides on developing business cases for green developments and refurbishments also feature on the site. According to the AGO, the building sector has a significant impact on the environment, accounting for 10 per cent of Australia's greenhouse emissions, 12 per cent of water consumption and up to 40 per cent of total energy. Activities around buildings produce 40 per cent of landfill waste and 40 per cent of air emissions in Australia.

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