



Photography: John Gollings

Design:

Darling Quarter is unique for its precinct wide sustainable initiatives and particular emphasis on long-term social sustainability and place making.

The environmental design concept of the Commonwealth Bank Place at Darling Quarter focuses on creating a highly energy efficient building capable of achieving global sustainability leadership status, designed in accordance with Sydney's climatic conditions.

An important aspect of Commonwealth Bank Place's innovation and sustainability in design is not simply in the point score that reaches the highest levels of sustainable accreditation, but the focus on occupant well-being and the creation of an enabling, supportive, human and inspiring place to work, generate and exchange ideas.

Commonwealth Bank Place was designed to be a world leader in environmental innovation.

Environmental initiatives in the project reduce energy demand of the buildings, increase indoor environmental quality, promote a more efficient use of water and resources and ultimately minimise the environmental impact from the whole-of-life of the building.

The building design has embraced the social and health enhancing role of sustainability by demonstrating technology, and extending environmental design initiatives to the larger public and has achieved the following Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) ratings:

- 6 Star Green Star — Office Design v2 rating
- 5 Star Green Star - Office Design Interiors v1.1
- The first building to achieve 6 Star Green Star — Office As Built v3

Many of the successful sustainable outcomes of this building are due to a unique process that took place during design development allowing a comprehensive understanding of the design potentials and weaknesses. Integrated computer simulations involving the combined work of mechanical and facade engineers, architects, building physicists and daylight specialists were extremely important resources in reaching a predicted high level of efficiency, whilst keeping Darling Quarter's construction cost under control.

The significance of its innovative sustainable technologies, will be of ongoing significance for urban renewal and design in our cities.