



Media Release

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ANZ screensaver to become an energy saver

ANZ has removed screensavers from around 31,000 company computers across Australia and internationally in a move which could potentially reduce ANZ's annual electricity use by around four per cent per year.

ANZ Chief Information Officer Mr Peter Dalton said ANZ removed screensavers throughout its Australian computer network last night, including laptops and desktop computers, to cut energy use and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"Taking this small step will have a significant and instant impact on our energy use – and it's a quick win for the environment," Mr Dalton said. "It's another way we can work towards reducing our overall impact on the environment and of course, it also makes good business sense, because saving energy saves money."

"Globally, most organisations have screensavers operating on average between three and 12 hours a day, with some workers leaving their computers on overnight," Mr Dalton said. "Having a computer in sleep mode rather than screensaver mode can potentially cut energy use in half."

Mr Dalton said the potential benefits of the screensaver shutdown in Australia included:

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 5,000 tonnes each year – the equivalent of removing more than 1,150 cars from our roads or planting over 7,400 trees each year
- saving around 6,000 megawatts or four per cent of ANZ's electricity consumption in Australia.

The screensaver shutdown has been managed centrally. It means that after 15 minutes of inactivity a monitor goes into 'sleep mode' which is an energy saving setting rather than into 'screensaver mode'. To start the monitor again, the staff member simply presses any key or moves their mouse.

Mr Dalton said the screensaver initiative builds on existing measures implemented by ANZ as part of its commitment to reduce its environmental footprint and impact on climate change. This includes converting all Australian leased computer screens from cathode ray tube (CRT) to liquid crystal display (LCD) screens which can save up to 50 per cent in energy use. So far, of around 20,000 CRT computer screens more than 15,000 have been converted to LCD screens.

"We're currently identifying other areas where we can make a difference. We estimate that up to half our energy is attributable to technology and are working to reduce our environmental impact in this key area," Mr Dalton said.

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