



ahslea

AUSTRALIAN HIDE, SKIN
& LEATHER EXPORTERS
ASSOCIATION

Sustainability Framework

Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy

Key points

- Solar energy is used at most sites
- High interest in increasing renewable energy use
- Availability of carbon-neutral hide certification

Best practice

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions management includes **measuring and reporting GHG emissions**, conducting **life-cycle assessments**, setting and publicly committing to **emission reduction targets**, and developing and implementing **emission reduction plans and/or initiatives**.

What the Australian industry is currently doing

- Most sites have significant solar installations to generate renewable energy.
- Energy-efficient features such as LED and timed/sensor lighting are implemented at most sites.
- Some availability of a carbon-neutral hide, developed and certified by Climate Active.
- Some sites are measuring the carbon footprint per hide.

- Thermal energy recovery methods are utilised to maximise energy efficiency.
- Variable speed drives are implemented wherever feasible to optimise equipment energy consumption.
- Forklift fleets are being electrified wherever possible.
- Use of energy-efficient Variable Speed Drive (VSD) air compressors.
- Use of biomass boilers fired by macadamia and sawdust waste products.
- Natural refrigerant replacements to Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).
- New research focus on transitioning from natural gas heating to more sustainable alternatives like solar thermal and heat pumps.
- Growing interest in achieving carbon neutrality among tanneries, with site-specific life cycle assessments (LCAs) being conducted.

Sustainability Framework key industry commitment

- We are committed to further reducing our GHG emissions commencing with a benchmarking survey in 2024 followed by a review of Scope 1 & 2 emissions in 2025 and the setting of improvement targets.

The Australian Hide Skin & Leather Exporters Association (AHSLEA) is the national membership body representing the interests of the major exporters of Australian cattle and calf hides, sheep and lamb skins, kangaroo skins and goat skins. It is also a member of the International Council of Hides, Skins and Leather Traders Association (ICHSLTA), which promotes, develops and protects the international trade in raw hides, skins and leathers.

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