

Dairy Manufacturers Sustainability Council

Initiative Overview

The Dairy Manufacturers Sustainability Council (DMSC) is a nationally recognised community of practice initiated in 1995 and is comprised primarily of environmental and sustainability group managers from Australian dairy processors.

The DMSC has an industry-wide focus that assists company members to improve environmental compliance and the sustainability of their operations. This is achieved by:

- enabling knowledge-sharing on best practice
- connecting company members with pre-screened technologies and project funding opportunities to accelerate technology transfer
- monitoring and supporting individual and collective Company Member progress against industry benchmarks for environmental sustainability, which have been established under the Australian Dairy Industry Sustainability Framework; namely, reducing greenhouse gas emissions intensity, consumptive water usage intensity, and waste-to-landfill intensity
- publicity reporting on collective outcomes; and
- drawing upon a collective voice and the support of Dairy Australia to respond to industry issues.

Mission

The mission of the DMSC is to advance state-of-the-art practices in order to help maximise the business and environmental performance of the dairy manufacturing industry.

The DMSC will achieve this by:

- identifying and harnessing new developments, leading edge technologies and practices
- leading the effective transfer of knowledge, practices and technology

- providing strategic support for key initiatives undertaken by company members; and
- providing guidance to sustainability practitioners within the dairy manufacturing sector, or its stakeholders.

Reducing our environmental impact and resource use

It is the intention of the DMSC for its members to network, share ideas and undertake free discussion on activities and initiatives that may provide a benefit to the entire Australian dairy industry.

Vision

DMSC's vision is:

- to provide value and drive change across the dairy industry by promoting and delivering best practice initiatives, and by encouraging innovation beyond best practice
- to influence the transfer of key skills and knowledge, and guide research activity
- to be highly respected and consulted, both within and outside Australia, because of our reputation for excellence in promoting environmental sustainability
- to be seen as a leader in environmental sustainability through expertise, drive and a passion for excellence; and
- to work collaboratively to address evolving industry challenges.

To achieve its vision, the DMSC must engage with both the dairy manufacturing sector and the broader dairy supply chain.

Members and benefits

DMSC members meet a minimum of three times a year to discuss ongoing environmental or sustainability challenges for the industry, track and encourage progress against sustainability targets, and view presentations from subject experts around technology, research, funding and policy opportunities with the potential to improve the sustainability of Australian dairy manufacturing.

DMSC membership is two-tiered:

- **Company membership:** available to Australian dairy processing companies committed to helping drive the DMSC according to its mission and vision.
- **Associate membership:** available to broader stakeholders who would like to keep informed of (and potentially be involved in) the dairy manufacturing industry's activities in sustainability and with a demonstrable interest in supporting company members to achieve their sustainability goals.

In 2023–24, DMSC company members were estimated to be processing more than 85 per cent of the national milk supply. Through the development of a Co-investment Agreement with Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF), Company Members included:

- The A2 Milk Company
- Australian Consolidated Milk
- Ausfine Foods
- Ballantyne Dairy Innovation
- Bega Group
- Beston Global Food Company
- Brownes Dairy
- Bulla Family Dairy
- Burra Foods Australia
- Chobani Australia
- Noumi
- Fonterra Australia
- Kyvalley Dairy Group
- Lactalis Australia
- Maxum Foods
- Milk 2 Market
- Norco
- Saputo Dairy Australia
- ProviCo
- That's Amore Cheese
- Goulburn Valley Creamery
- The Yoghurt Shop

Dairy Australia provides the secretariat for the DMSC as part of a larger program designed to support the Australian dairy manufacturing industry.

Membership of the DMSC provides access to a formal network of dairy manufacturing personnel, and other key stakeholders, who are involved in sustainability. Benefits of both company and associate membership include increased awareness of, and access to, technology, research, funding and policy opportunities with the potential to improve the sustainability of Australian dairy manufacturing.

These forums provide the opportunity to hear from and network with external experts from academia, research organisations, regulators, non-dairy companies, technology providers and professional service groups as well as policy makers and government funding bodies.

DMSC has an industry-wide focus that assists company members to improve environmental compliance and sustainability of their operations

Company member benefits

- Voting rights with respect to strategic direction of DMSC and admittance of Associate Members.
- Allowance for three personnel to attend all DMSC forums.
- DMSC forums typically consist of a restricted company members-only morning session and an open afternoon session that Associate Members, presenters and other leading industry representatives are invited to.
- Ability to influence direction of Dairy Australia investment in programs which improve manufacturing margins and overall industry sustainability.
- Ability to benchmark company performance against others in the industry.
- Ability to draw upon a collective voice and Dairy Australia's support to respond to industry issues (including those without an environmental focus.)
- Ability to draw upon a network of industry peers to provide in-confidence support towards addressing individual and/or sector wide environmental challenges.
- Ability to inform ADPF strategic sustainability priorities, and public policy and advocacy initiatives.

Members of Australian Dairy Products Federation are automatically conferred Company Membership to the DMSC.

Associate member benefits

- Allowance for one participant to attend the open section of all DMSC environmental forums.
- DMSC forums typically consist of a restricted company members-only morning session and an open afternoon session to which Associate Members, presenters and other leading industry representatives are invited.
- Ability to network with key Australian dairy manufacturing sustainability personnel and industry stakeholders.
- Insight into evolving dairy manufacturing sustainability challenges and current industry focus.
- Awareness of, and access to, technology, policy and funding opportunities that have been pre-screened as commercially relevant to Australian dairy manufacturers.

Membership fees

Company membership

- Large processor (>500 million litres per year)
\$4,000 p.a. (exc. GST)
- Medium processor (100 to 500 million litres per year)
\$3,000 p.a. (exc. GST)
- Small processor (<100 million litres per year)
\$2,000 p.a. (exc. GST)

Restricted to Australian dairy processing companies.

Associate membership

- \$1,000 p.a. (exc. GST)

Applications considered on a case-by-case basis.

Open to individuals and organisations with a demonstrable interest in supporting the company members to achieve their sustainability goals.

For more information

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Disclaimer

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