media release

Andreas Sederof, director of Sunpower Design, specialising in passive solar design and environmentally sustainable building design, discusses the use of Ability's the Paint and abilox® products within Sunpower projects.





Andreas Sederof is a living example of how a person's vision, perseverance and genuine care about the environment, can be successfully applied towards the creation of environmentally sustainable building design.

Since the multi award winning company's inception, almost three decades ago, Sunpower Design, is continually working to meet the ever growing demand for dwellings that leave a minimum environmental 'imprint' on our world.



Andreas has understood that clients appreciate the possibility of having a choice and a say about the production of a home or a building that will not impact heavily on the environment. This translates into a variety of features offered by Sunpower Design, not currently factored into the design of most buildings, which clients are now demanding including: creative solutions



mage 'North Fitzroy' courtesy of Sunpower Design

to maximise natural features, aspects and orientation of the property; to significantly reduce energy consumption; the optimisation of water use and recycling, enhancing the building's cooling capacity during increasing heat conditions and general overall durability, high sustainability features and low ongoing maintenance aspects.

This approach results in a positive situation where client, designer and builder work as a team for a highly satisfying outcome, not only the client but also for the environment.

What is the current standard?

All Sunpower designed dwellings exceed the minimum requirements for a Five Star rating on FirstRate 4 (which is the Government's current standard thermodynamic model house energy rating software all designers must adhere to). The FirstRate 5 program will be mandatory by May 1st 2009. All of Sunpower's new homes currently achieve a Seven to Eight star Rating. This high standard of environmental efficiency achieved by the company, is a direct result of many years of specialised experience and accrued knowledge.

Why Ability products?

As Sunpower Design's main objective behind all of their projects is to achieve a high level of sustainability, balanced with appealing aesthetics, the company utilises products that reflect these requirements including: extremely high durability, low VOCs and any other features that withstand extremes in weather and are necessary to contribute to the buildings' high energy rating. Sunpower Design has utilised both Ability's **the Paint** and **abilox**® for a variety of applications in many projects over the years.

How and why is Ability's the Paint used?

the Paint one of Ability's Geo® Paints range is used specifically for outdoor and exterior applications due to it's 20* year guarantee (*conditions apply), it's outstanding durability, UV resistance, waterproofing qualities, extremely low VOCs, it's resistance to salt attack and can be colour matched to suit virtually any colour. Sunpower Design has contributed to the development of the Paint through valuable feedback to Ability assisting to make the Paint a unique and outstanding product most suitable for projects that require extreme durability as well as an adherence to ESD principles.



Image 'Warrnambool' courtesy of Sunpower Design.

How and why is Ability's abilox® used? abilox® mineral oxide colouring pigments are utilised in Sunpower Design projects mainly for rendering applications.

As **abilox**® is practically permanent, this makes it an extremely low maintenance product that is a part of the life cycle of the materials utilised in the construction of the building.

Andreas particularly likes the organic feel and texture of both **abilox**® and **the Paint** feeling that they have a 'mediterranean modelling' quality about them, whose colouration outlives most other products and only gets better with age.

