### Vinyl Council of Australia



# Membership

# **Vinyl Council Australia**

### **About Us**

Founded in 1998, Vinyl Council of Australia (VCA) is the peak organisation representing the Australian PVC, or vinyl, value chain. Our 100+ members are drawn from across the supply chain of the vinyl industry in Australia and represent a very diverse range of products and organisations.

VCA represents the Australian PVC industry through offering our members access to expertise on PVC issues, strategic advice on environmental affairs and representation of the industry's interests to relevant businesses and stakeholders. We advocate for the responsible manufacture, use, recycling, and disposal of PVC products to improve the circularity of the industry and encourage industry advances and innovation.

Find out more about us at: https://vinyl.org.au





### **Our Members**

With over 100 member businesses from throughout the PVC industry, our members have a diverse range of specialities and interests which we represent.

VCA members hold a shared belief in supporting the continued growth and expansion of the industry, and many have publicly committed to advancing the sustainability of PVC practices and understanding of the product life cycle through joining our Best Environmental Practice PVC and PVC Stewardship programs.

View our current list of members at:

https://www.vinyl.org.au/about-us/list-of-members

We believe that the versatility and recyclability of PVC makes it essential to modern society.

VCA advocates for the responsible manufacture, use, recycling, and disposal of PVC products within a circular economy through sharing information and engaging with stakeholders.



# **Our Key Focus Areas**

### **Sustainability**

We work to advance the sustainability of the PVC industry in Australia through sharing information on and engaging with stakeholders regarding the life cycle of PVC and its scope within a circular economy.



### Advocacy

We advocate for the responsible manufacture, use and disposal of PVC products and communicate between members, governments, and industry organisations to influence policy and regulation to increase the standing of PVC.

#### Leadership

We provide leadership to our members in Product Stewardship and best practice models to encourage industry advances and promote operations to the highest standards.



#### **Education**

We constantly work to educate key influencers and end users on the environmental and performance benefits of PVC in a wide range of industry segments.

As a VCA member, you can be confident that we will promote and educate the market on the strengths of your product, advocate on your behalf for better representation of PVC in industry legislation, offer access to industry-recognised programs and provide you with exclusive industry news and information to guide your company's decision making.

### **Our Achievements**

Over the years, VCA has achieved many major gains for the PVC industry across a variety of sectors and products.

These include:

- Creation of the PVC Stewardship Program allowing Signatories to measure and improve the sustainability of their practices across the industry.
- Development of the Best Environmental Practice (BEP) accreditation, which is open to members and recognised by major procurers of PVC products including the Green Building Council of Australia.
- Advocating for uPVC windows through the development of a verified Industry Code of Practice accreditation mark and ongoing industry education on the higher performance properties of uPVC window and door frames.
- Implementation of the PVC Recycling in Hospitals scheme, which currently recycles over 100 tonnes of used medical PVC per year from over 300 participating hospitals in Australia and has inspired similar programs in Europe, the Americas and Asia.





## **Membership Benefits**

As a VCA member, you and your business will have access to a wide range of benefits and services. A few of the key benefits that members enjoy.

#### **Networking**

Access industry leaders and build stronger connections along the value chain with exclusive networking opportunities at events and conferences.

We help facilitate decision making and possibilities open to our members through industry specific events and webinars, where members can collaborate with connections in the sector to further grow their company's standing.



## Advocacy

We advocate on behalf members affected by legislation, policies, or updated practices to help ensure our members voices are clearly heard by those who need to hear it.

The VCA communicates with state and federal governments, policy makers, regulators, and industry stakeholders to improve sector conditions and represent the best interests of our members businesses.



#### **Greater Reach**

We provide members with a stronger voice through removing industry barriers and influencing policy developments to shape the industry for the benefit of members.

Members can make a difference to industry outcomes by nominating a member of their organisation to the Technical Steering Group, Standards Committees or the VCA Board to have a powerful say in the future direction of the Australian PVC industry.



#### Recognition

VCA members secure a head start on competitors by demonstrating their sustainability credentials to the market.

Participating members can use Best Environmental Practice PVC, VinylCycle, uPVC Profile Industry Code of Practice accreditation or PVC Stewardship logos to signify their commitment to using environmentally responsible practices and be listed on our member directory and accreditation registers to promote their environmental commitment through our channels.





#### Intelligence

The VCA arms members with tailored market intelligence and the latest news on local and global industry developments to help support your business decisions and innovation.

Members can access news and research through exclusive member-only reports, bulletins, and industry news roundups, as well as being the first to hear about relevant national and international developments that might impact their business.

#### **Discounts**

Members are eligible for a wide range of discounts including:

- Discounted prices to VCA seminars, events, and conferences.
- Free provision of quarterly ABS import statistics for PVC products
- Discounted licence fees to use VCA registered logos: Best Environmental Practice PVC, and uPVC Profiles Industry Code of Practice mark upon accreditation.
- Free access to PVC Stewardship Program logo for Signatories achieving relevant compliance.
- Potential savings on subsequent year's membership fees.





### **Working For You**

We support and grow the sustainability and operations of the PVC industry for members through:

- Demonstrating the sustainability and recycling capabilities of PVC.
- Maintaining existing markets and developing new ones for members' products.
- Providing members with the opportunity to show ongoing commitment to sustainable practices through the PVC Stewardship Program and Best Environmental Practice PVC Accreditation.
- Promoting and assisting in the development of standards and guidelines surrounding best practices in the PVC life cycle.
- Advocating for the best possible representation of PVC in industry related regulations and policies.
- Educating and promoting to the broader public on the highperformance capabilities of PVC in a range of products and uses.
- Encouraging collaboration and networking between businesses and organisations across the industry.
- Supplying and sharing relevant industry related news, information, and data.
- Promoting quality products amongst members in the aim of lifting benchmarks for industry practice and performance



With 25 years of experience as the peak body representing the PVC value chain in Australia, we know what it takes to help make your business successful within the industry.

Let us work with you to promote best practices and build the reputation of PVC products for your benefit.

### **Global Connections**



The VCA is globally recognised and works closely with international counterparts to improve the sustainability of the global PVC industry through the sharing of information and best practices.

We form part of the Global Vinyl Council and Asia Pacific Vinyl Network, and actively participate in promoting our programs such as the PVC Stewardship Program and PVC Recycling in Hospital scheme for other organisations to take inspiration and frameworks from. We are a proud partner of PVC UK, the global technical and sustainability conference for PVC

As a member, you will automatically gain connection to and networking opportunities with other businesses and peak PVC industry bodies around the world, providing you with access to the most up-to-date practices and learnings from organisations at the very forefront of the PVC value chain.



# **PVC Stewardship Program**

We encourage VCA Members to become Signatories of our PVC Stewardship Program (PSP), which supports progress towards a more sustainable industry through Signatory achievement of voluntary commitments to improve environmental aspects associated with the manufacture, use and disposal of PVC products through their life cycle.

Signatories can display the Program trademark on their products or marketing material to publicly signify their business's commitment to sustainable practices once they are compliant with at least 50% of the commitments relevant to their business, while the name of new Signatory organisations are included on our website and in annual progress reports.

View current Signatories at: https://vinyl.org.au/signatories





### **Best Environmental Practice**

Our Best Environmental Practice (BEP) accreditation program is recognised by the Green Building Council of Australia in its responsible products rating scheme and, increasingly, by other major procurers of PVC products.

While based on our PVC Stewardship Program, products must be fully compliant with the criteria and independently audited to receive Best Environmental Practice PVC accreditation. The criteria include stringent benchmarks for resin manufacturing and converters.

As a Vinyl Council member, we can support your business in achieving Best Practice PVC accreditation, assist in finding auditors, and provide a recognised License Mark for you to promote the achievement. Our online register provides product specifiers easy reference for compliant products.

For more information, go to: <a href="https://vinyl.org.au/in-greenstar">https://vinyl.org.au/in-greenstar</a>

# **Vinyl Cycle**

The VinylCycle Label and verification process result from a collaborative partnership between VCA and GECA, a well-known and trusted ecolabel, to verify recycled PVC content claims. VinylCycle builds on our PVC Stewardship Program (PSP) commitment to encourage the use of recycled PVC in products, encouraging recycled PVC uptake and related innovation.

The VinylCycle label is designed to cut through the greenwash and support businesses wanting to showcase their achievements in the circular economy. VinylCycle verification is available to both local and international applicants claiming at least 10% of the PVC compound (by weight) constitutes recycled PVC.

For more information, go to: https://vinyl.org.au/vinylcycle







## **Profile Industry Code of Practice**

Australia has the highest solar radiation /m² of land of any continent and it is important that products used in Australian buildings are designed for our harsh climate.

The uPVC Window Alliance Industry Code of Practice (ICP) and accreditation scheme for uPVC window profiles sets specific composition, weathering resistance, colour and strength requirements for extruded uPVC window profiles and gives specifiers, builders, and consumers confidence in the suitability of those profiles under Australia's harsh climatic conditions.

Look for the mark! The accreditiation mark provides a simple way for specifiers, builders, and customers to identify uPVC profiles tested for Australia's extreme climate.

For more information, go to: https://www.upvcwindows.org.au/industry-code-of-practice-and-accreditation.html

# **JOIN US**

Want to become a member of the VCA?

Visit:

https://vinyl.org.au/about-us/becoming-a-member

Simply fill out the VCA Membership Form and send it to: info@vinyl.org.au

Alternatively, to discuss membership options or ask any membership related questions, you can contact our office via phone at 03 9510 1711 or at info@vinyl.org.au

