

# YATALA BREWERY WATER USAGE FACTS JAN 07



The Yatala Brewery is a key production and bottling site for Foster's Group Australian beer, spirits and cider and non-alcohol portfolio.

The brewery produces around 430 million litres of beer and other beverages each year and is an acknowledged leader in water use.

Water is one of the four main ingredients used in brewing beer and a consistent supply is vital to maintain the quality for which we are world famous. Water is consequently very important to Yatala Brewery, and we have worked closely with Gold Coast Water for over a decade to save water.

Brewing performance is measured by the amount of water required to brew a litre of beer. We are well ahead of the international standard for brewing, which is between four and five litres of water to brew a litre of beer. At Yatala we only need about 2.3 litres of water for each litre of beer and we're continually working on ways to improve that further. We believe we are the most water efficient major brewery in the world, by a considerable margin. Through our initiatives we have already saved 2,500 million litres (or 2.5 gigalitres) over the last 5 years. This equates to enough water to fill over 1100 Olympic sized swimming pools. If you look at non-product use, (it always takes a litre of water to make a litre of beer) Yatala now uses only one quarter of the water we did in 1993.

The \$14 million Water Management Project implemented as part of the brewery expansion enabled the brewery to double its brewing capacity with only a marginal (10-15%) increase in its consumption of water – an astounding achievement. Yatala uses drinking water to make our products and wherever water touches the actual product. Virtually all other processes use recycled water, which is captured and treated on site. Our recycled water is treated to a standard that is in fact purer than the normal reticulated water supply.

We will continue to look for new ways to save water, and are working on projects that could save up to another 100 million litres a year.

This will take us to the absolute limit of water saving at Yatala.

Great for the environment, and great for us.



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## KEY WATER SAVING INITIATIVES

- > Recovering all factory trade waste for treatment and recycling
- > Optimised water usage in automated cleaning systems
- > Using recycled water for external keg washing
- > Using recycled water for vacuum pumps
- > Using recycled water for washdown hoses
- > Using recycled water for cooling towers and boilers
- > Using recycled water for toilet and urinal flushing and installing waterless urinals where possible
- > Installing waterwise showers and flow restrictors on basin taps

## SOME BACKGROUND WATER STATISTICS

- > According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2004-05 figures), total manufacturing accounts for 3.6% of water consumption in Queensland.
- > By way of context, other users include: agriculture: 67%, households: 11%, water industry (incl distribution losses): 16%.
- > The Queensland "Food, Beverage & Tobacco" industry accounts for just over 2% of water consumption in Queensland.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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