

Teacher Testimonials

This is the twelfth year we have participated in ECOMAN . . . The program, although demanding on our course time is one of the most valuable and rewarding learning experiences . . . In addition to promoting an understanding of business practices and an appreciation of commercial realities of dynamic and competitive markets, students also experience the value of collaborative team work. We will be back for more next year.

**Peter Horeczyk, Head of Commerce, Econ Coordinator
Brisbane Boys' College**

The success of the program speaks for itself. The ECOMAN program is run off site in a business setting and students dress appropriately. The competitive nature of the simulated business program develops numerous business skills including: team building, management, accounting, computer skills, negotiation skills, problem solving, presentation and business etiquette.

Students are challenged, engaged and find the course enjoyable. They develop confidence, versatility and obtain an insight into running a successful business in an ever changing market situation.

I highly recommend ECOMAN as all students thoroughly enjoy the program that is organised and conducted in a supportive and professional environment with very experienced and knowledgeable mentors.

**Kerrie Hopewell, Accounting & Business Teacher
Yeronga State High School**

Parent Testimonial

I am writing to say thank you for the incredible experience the boys had at ECOMAN.

My son was completely engaged and loved it. On Day 1, he came home with a headache, saying he was in charge of HR and had been asked to cut his staff by half, an incredulous look and a "can I even do that – is it legal?" By the end of Day 2, he had decided that running a company was a bit like juggling, but with a few balls and one chainsaw – you had to be very careful to keep it all spinning around and catch carefully, because the consequences would be pretty horrific if you messed it up. They were of course thrilled that they had turned their company around by Day 3.

A wonderful experience!

Julie, Parent, Brisbane Grammar School

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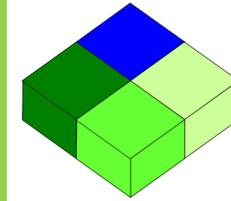
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ECOMAN PROGRAM



Students learn the basics of managing a "real" business through the four phases of a business cycle

Promoted by



Queensland Private Enterprise Centre Inc

Queensland Private Enterprise Centre is a non-profit organisation devoted to building a better understanding between business and education.

ECOMAN

The name ECOMAN is derived from the words, economics and management. ECOMAN is primarily a three-day program for groups with a maximum of 20 students. The program is designed to simulate the operations of a medium-size manufacturing company over a four-year period. No prior business experience is necessary.

There is a two-day consolidated “short course” version of ECOMAN for groups having difficulty giving up three days of classes, but the three-day program is the preferred option.

Where possible, ECOMAN programs are run at business premises owned by sponsors supporting QPEC.

ECOMAN is an important link between business and education. The program originated in Switzerland and is currently running in hundreds of European schools.

What Will Students Learn?

As a co-director of an operating company which has been running for ten years, students will attempt to run the company successfully for a further four years.

Students will make decisions about demand for their product, production outputs, sales and marketing, environmental impacts, training and numbers of personnel, management of budgets, income and expenditure statements, dividends paid, borrowings, and much more.

All this will take place competing against other companies and against an economic scenario for each year of the company’s operations. At the end of the program students will report to shareholders on their company’s success.



What Are the Outcomes?

Students will gain:

- An appreciation of the integrated nature of business and the need for balance in a company’s operations.
- Insight into teamwork and group dynamics.
- Skills in business presentation, particularly of company reports.



For further information contact:

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Student Testimonials

At the beginning of my ECOMAN experience, I wasn't quite sure what to expect, or even had a clue where my future was heading. The whole atmosphere was the most exciting part at the start, dressing up in professional business attire and picturing, possibly, the future me.

Filled with enthusiasm, we all were quite eager to understand how the three days were going to unfold. After introductions, the division of teams, name choices and role allocations were complete, trading was underway.

Our mentors/instructors provided us with interesting and easily understandable information, but also their presence lifted the mood of the place and allowed us all to feel quite comfortable to speak freely, without feeling too nervous. The amount of new things I learnt throughout ECOMAN was incredible. As CEO of my company, I felt I also developed new leadership skills and by the time our company presented to our shareholders, I felt a lot less anxious about speaking. I came out of the three days possibly seeing myself in a similar position when I am older, and it opened up a range of new possibilities and opportunities I never knew I had.

I would definitely recommend the ECOMAN experience to any other student who has the opportunity to participate.
Monique, Rochedale State High School

The ECOMAN program is really an amazing experience . . . I particularly enjoyed how realistic the simulation was, the teamwork and the competition between teams. It gave me an opportunity to work with people who I usually wouldn't.

That they (the presenters) treated us like mature adults enhanced the program. The presenters respected our concepts, decisions and opinions . . . the presenters were crucial to the success and enjoyment of the program. The program was one of the highlights of the school year and I will definitely be recommending it to other students.
Jarred, Kingaroy SHS

I learnt something I haven't learnt at school; that we won; the trading; working in a real business atmosphere; presentations to shareholders provided feelings of a real business director; the puns; the venue; being in a proper business setting; invaluable business experience; the teachers; working as a team to achieve greatness; the venues; the business atmosphere and the intensity.
Student, Somerville House