

# Sustainability Summit

The below answer sheet is for your own self-assessment. Please keep your completed questionnaires and answers on file for your record. Sustainability Summit will send you a Refuel certificate once your questionnaire has been submitted.

## HOW CIRCULAR ECONOMY CAN DRIVE GREATER SUSTAINABILITY AND NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1. What is a recent example of circular economy in the building industry?  
An Australian company has developed a 6-stage process to minimise general construction site waste by using a process that integrates reusing and recycling practices whilst increasing overall site safety.
2. Name some circular economy ideas?  
In a circular economy, manufacturers design products to be reusable. For example, electrical devices are designed in such a way that they are easier to repair. Products and raw materials are also reused as much as possible. For example, by recycling plastic into pellets for making new plastic products.
3. How can architects and building designers utilise the main principles of the circular economy and incorporate them into their designs?
  - avoiding waste through improved product design, making reuse and repair more efficient
  - improving resource recovery and the processes for recycling
  - increasing the use of and demand for recycled materials
  - improving information to support innovation and guide investment.
4. Why do you think the concept of circular economy has not really taken off in Australia?  
To successfully transition to a circular economy, Australia must redress the uncertainty and confusion encountered by market operators who are responsible for turning waste into a resource. This means rethinking the productivity of waste and addressing the regulatory gaps that constrain resource recovery activities.