



Colormaker Industries

Solar My Business: case study

“I couldn’t believe how much of a no brainer installing solar turned out to be. If I’d known before I would have done it years ago.”

David Stuart, Owner, ColorMaker Industries

Colormaker Industries are a boutique coatings manufacturer based in Brookvale. They manufacture Luxapool, Australia’s most trusted swimming pool paint and Permaset, a world leading, eco-friendly textile screen printing ink. Colormaker have been in business 60 years. They own their business premises and operate 5.5 days a week with 20 employees.

In 2019, David Stuart, the owner, decided to go solar. Initially he was thinking about sustainability. But the cost benefits have been significant.

He explains: “We wanted to go as big as we could for the roof area we had and do our bit for the environment. We’ve cut our annual greenhouse gas emissions by 108 tonnes and the excess electricity generated is enough to power 20 local homes. The financial benefits aren’t bad either!”

Which solar system did you choose and who installed it?

Working with Australian Solar Design, Colormaker Industries chose a 99.6kW system comprising 356 Trina 220W panels. This was installed on their 1000m2 roof with three SMA string inverters and a Solar Analytics consumption monitor. David confidently recommends Australian Solar Design, commenting: “James and the team did an outstanding job. We were kept fully informed the whole way.”

What was the cost and how did you pay for it?

The total system cost \$134,000 ex GST but after the \$57,000 STC rebate was applied, the final cost to the business was just \$76,000. Colormaker Industries paid for their installation through a Clean Energy Finance Corporation subsidised bank loan.

Cost of solar installation after STC ¹ rebate	\$76,000 ex GST
Annual electricity cost before solar	\$25,200
Annual electricity cost after solar	\$1,500
Payback period after funding costs	3.5 years

1. Systems up to 100KW are eligible for rebates called small scale generation certificates (STCs)

Key benefits

CO² emissions

108 tonnes saved

per annum

Car kilometres

627k kms saved

per annum

Trees

1,620 trees planted

per annum

Electricity bill

\$24k power savings

per annum