



McCreath Prestige Panel & Paint

Solar My Business: case study

“With solar we’re saving money and helping the environment.”

Dean McCreath
Co-Owner, McCreath Prestige Panel & Paint

McCreath Prestige Panel & Paint in Brookvale is a family business that was founded in 1971 by the current co-owner Dean’s father Grahame. The company is BMW’s only accredited repairer on the Northern Beaches. The company takes pride in offering a family business level of service whilst incorporating the latest technology and repair techniques. McCreath’s employs 12 people and operates five days-a-week

In 2019, Dean McCreath, co-owner, decided to install solar and upgrade to LED lighting in order to reduce his power costs and environmental footprint.

Which solar system did you choose and who installed it?

Working with Autonomous Energy, Dean chose a 39kW system comprising 142 Jinko panels and two ABB string inverters. He says “There was no interruption to our business. The whole process was very easy.” Dean would recommend Autonomous Energy.

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

The solar system and LED lighting upgrade cost \$102,000 ex GST but after the STC rebate was applied, the final cost to the business was just \$82,152 which was paid for from cash reserves.

Cost of solar installation after STC ¹ rebate	\$82,152 ex GST
Annual electricity cost before solar	\$62k
Annual electricity cost after solar	\$42k
Payback period	4.1 years

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

Key benefits

<p>C0² emissions</p> <p>43 tonnes saved</p> <p>per annum</p>	<p>Car kilometres</p> <p>245k kms saved</p> <p>per annum</p>	<p>Trees</p> <p>629 trees planted</p> <p>per annum</p>	<p>Electricity bill</p> <p>\$20k power savings</p> <p>per annum</p>
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