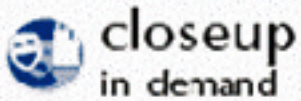


Water-wise rebate sparks work boom



■ Converting toilets and urinals to dual-flush is a lucrative business.

■ Neil T Fallon Services has hired four more staff in the past year as a result.

■ Government subsidies encourage businesses to act.

By LEE STEHBENS

RETROFITTING 3000 toilets and urinals to save water may not sound like a lot of fun but for a West End based business the move is paying dividends.

Trade services company Neil T Fallon Services has covered more than 3000 toilets in schools, businesses and homes across Brisbane to dual-flush models in the past 12 months.

They have also fitted 161,000 flow restrictors in schools across the city.

Managing director Mark Denning said the group's plumbers were given a range of duties, as well as work on toilets.

"We do a range of work, so we make sure our workers don't get bored doing the same thing," he said.



■ Flushed with success . . . managing director and plumbing manager Michael Preston is kept busy with the extra work

"We have a \$12 million annual turnover and this work would account for \$1.5 to \$2 million in revenue for us"

The amount of work the company is doing has also meant they have had to employ new staff.

"Our plumbing team has gone from 10 to 14 in the past year," Mr Denning said.

Shopping centres and entertainment venues have also had their toilets converted to dual-flush and the reduced flush models introduced to urinals.

Much of the work has been sparked by the Queensland Government, which has allocated \$55 million as part of its Business Water Efficiency Program to fund water-saving projects for state business that use more than one million litres

of water a year.

The program allows businesses using more than one million litres of town water a year to access rebates and subsidies of up to 50 per cent for improved water management practices and to reduce consumption.