



## A Sustainable Built Environment

Stable, a Northern Beaches based Australian development and property services company, is proving that sustainability goes hand-in-hand with superior commercial design, comfort and innovation, as Jane Igoe discovers.

**I**n 2003, Ed Horton and Danny Flynn established property group Stable, and since then, the pair have forged a strong name as leading figures in sustainable commercial and residential developments in Sydney and Melbourne, and in particular, in their Lifestyle Working complex in Brookvale.

"Stable's vision is to challenge convention and create vibrant, environmentally sustainable developments – not merely 'machines' for living and working in," Mr Horton tells *Peninsula Living*.

The overall aim of Stable and Lifestyle Working is to deliver "financial, environmental, communal and cultural benefits for residents, occupiers, regulators, developers and investors, which inevitably can be replicated across geographical and cultural divides," Mr Horton explains.

The Lifestyle Working building in Brookvale is a benchmark environmentally sustainable building that provides its business occupants with energy and environmental savings, low greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy infrastructure.

The building includes natural ventilation, rainwater harvesting, solar panels, passive energy solutions, recycled timbers and optimum temperature control options for individuals to select.



Ed Horton and Danny Flynn from Stable



"Stable has challenged the concept of traditional commercial buildings. We have tried to create a flexible, collaborative, sustainable and efficient building that supports people and business."

Ed Horton  
joint founding director,  
Stable

for the 'Triptych' high rise sustainable complex they developed. Most recently for this building, the team was awarded the Australian Best Residential Development at the 2012 Property Council of Australia/Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation and Excellence Awards and also was a finalist for Sustainable Building of the Year at the same awards. Triptych is a luxury residential tower located behind the acclaimed National Gallery of Victoria. The complex has 156 apartments in a combination of eight 'vertical villages' which creates an outstanding building.

Ed Horton says the motivation behind their projects and their ultimate success is probably a good dose of passion.

"Seeing buildings on the ground, occupied and operating as we saw in our visions, and also acknowledged by investors and our peers alike, is very satisfying. We are very pleased to see what we have created - making lives for people a little more interesting and businesses happier working from our buildings," they confirm. **P.**

It also has one of the largest amount of PV solar panels of any building of its type for electricity needs, and 286 kilolitres, or the equivalent of approximately five swimming pools, of water storage.

The complex has achieved a 5.5 STAR Energy and a 6 STAR Water National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS), attracting attention from governments and leading design organisations.

Mr Horton says that ultimately, Lifestyle Working is better for business because "people love coming to work in the building, and where staff and customers are happy, they tend to be more productive and more reliable".

"I think we have successfully challenged the concept of traditional commercial buildings and the 'old way' we would design and work in buildings," he says. "Some traditional 'must haves' have been written out of the new office by Stable, because we can either do without them or there are better, more sustainable ways of providing the same, or better performance buildings," he confirms.

Stable has also received a number of awards including the Urban Development Industry Association 'Best High Residential Building' award, and 'Best Environmental Development' award