

Real-life solar success story

“Our last power bill was \$420 in credit.”

Brendon Scarr

- Owner-operator of Euphoria Furniture

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**Nothing says ‘take me home’
like good lighting on the
object of your desire.**

Brendon Scarr at Euphoria Furniture recently had 70 solar panels installed on the roof of his furniture store in North Hobart.

In addition to the new solar system, the showroom floor now boasts 80 LED panel lights – replacing the old fluorescent lights – to double savings in electricity overheads, and to brighten up the showroom.

What the numbers mean

Financial

This 7-day-a-week business is now saving almost \$5,000 on power per year.



Power Generated

25,550 kWh annually which is equivalent to 7 families’ home energy needs for a year



Grid Connect

18 kW



The Stats

Solar Panels

70 x 260W panels

Inverters

2 x ABB 12kW (Aurora)

Annual Power Generated

25,500 kWh

Payback Period

5 years

Annual Power Savings

\$4,728

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The family-owned and run business was costing between \$3,000 and \$4,000 per quarter in electricity, with energy prices rumoured to go up yet again, prompting the Scarr family to take the plunge into solar. To prove it's working, their latest power bill was in credit several hundred dollars.

The beauty of solar panel systems is that any energy going back into grid over and above your needs is purchased by the power company, with you receiving money for feeding power back into the system.

The solar system, Brendon says, is set up to offer 18Kw of energy, but the store actually uses 30Kw, which is why they changed all the light fittings to LED lights, saving a further energy.

The lights are by far the greatest energy drain, with 80 fluorescent lights fitted across a 1200 by 300 drop ceiling, drawing around 85 watts each.

The business has been in operation since 1976 when Brendon and his wife were delivering furniture at night with an old Combie van, now selling a vast array of quality furniture from their custom-built premises. Euphoria Furniture now has the couple's two sons helping to run it, with the business looking like it will survive – with far less overheads and therefore a much healthier bottom line – well into the future.

The couple are very happy with their solar panel system and are, miraculously, looking forward to their next power bill.

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