



In the News

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Mock Wood a winner

Stuart Anderson

A REVOLUTIONARY wood substitute produced in Somerton has won an award in an episode of ABC TV's The New Inventors.

Recycling company Close the Loop took top honours on the show earlier this month for eWood, a wood-substitute made from mixed and contaminated plastics recycled from printer cartridges.

Managing director Steve Morriss said the invention had the potential to save trees from the chop and stop 18 million printer cartridges each year from ending up in Australia's landfills.



Cameron Brown sits on the eWood product while holding the award

Close the Loop account manager Cameron Brown said the best applications for eWood were outdoors, for example fencing, garden edging, outdoor furniture and sound barrier retaining walls.

"It's a great replacement for wood in places where it has traditionally come into contact with water," he said. "It won't rot."

Environmental agency Planet Ark founder Jon Dee said the product was so advanced no waste went into landfill from the cartridge recycling process.

"The eWood product and the recycling process used to make it represents a major breakthrough in recycling technology," he said.

eWood has the same characteristics as hardwood in terms of its strength, density and structure. It can be handcrafted using woodworking tools.
Mr Brown said eWood was so far only available directly from Close the Loop.

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