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## Suncorp's smart environments prove smart business

Suncorp has today announced the opening of two new smart environments in Melbourne designed for the modern workforce.

Flexible work spaces, no designated desks and leading-edge technology characterise the flagship Collins Street office in Melbourne's CBD. It accommodates more than 1500 Suncorp Group people.

The Hub at Fountain Gate south-east of the city is a training and touchdown point for a call centre team of more than 230 who mostly work from home.

These smart environments help to bring highly talented people into the workforce who may have previously been excluded due to carer responsibilities, disability, or commitments to study, sport or charity work.

Suncorp Group Executive, Peter Affleck, said thinking differently about workplace design improved productivity and enabled Suncorp to attract more quality candidates.

"Creating smart environments is about maximising people's productivity and helping them to be successful at work. We're recognising the office is not one-size-fits-all and we need to cater for a variance in work types and styles," he said.

"The key to making it successful has been implementing a much more flexible approach to when, where and how work is done. The benefits are threefold. We're attracting more talented people, building highly effective teams and creating a more diverse workforce."

Mr Affleck said the design and location were developing a greater sense of community.

"We designed the Collins Street office so that our people could be more collaborative. Chance encounters are resolving business decisions, growing people's professional and learning networks and creating a strong sense of community," he said.

"People who work within the Hub model live and work locally which makes it easier for them to be involved in community activities and support local businesses. It's in a shopping centre so they can drop off dry cleaning, catch up with friends or grab some groceries while stopping by the office to meet with other team members."

Mr Affleck said in addition to the people and productivity benefits, smart environments were more environmentally friendly.

"Electricity is the main culprit of greenhouse gas emissions for a financial services company. We need to find ways to minimise consumption," he said.

"By consolidating buildings and putting in sensor or timed lights and energy efficient fixtures we are reducing emissions and saving money."

Smart environments are being championed by Suncorp's leadership team as the future of workplace design and culture.

**ENDS**

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