

Eco-friendly add-on

The renovation and extension to this 1957 Melville home won the HIA GreenSmart Home Renovation of the Year.

The home is owned by builder Geoffrey Britton, a partner in Econstruct which built the extension. The design was by William Clark Designs.

The rear extension replaces an old sleepout and encompasses a big living area, mezzanine floor, dining area and an ensuite.

The judges said the extension had many carefully thought-out green features.

"The renovation maximised the cross-flow ventilation while

Home Renovation of the Year

COMPANY: Econstruct

SUBURB: Melville

opening the living area to northern light," they said. "Recycling of old timbers for the internal staircase was both practical and attractive. The implementation of storm-water retention and use was commendable."

Mr Britton said the extension was designed with doors and shuttered windows to ensure it could be easily ventilated.

"Careful consideration on the orientation and breezeways in the home takes maximum advantage of the cooling afternoon sea breeze and winter northern sunlight."

High windows allow natural light into the living area all year round while eaves to the northern side shade the interior from the summer sun. Mr Britton said 300mm thick rammed-earth walls also controlled the temperature range.

The roof of the extension was made from 150mm thick Austral Insulation Econodek panels, which require minimal use of structural timber and are also effective insulation.



Rammed-earth walls in the living area are attractive and control the temperature range inside all year.