Northern Territory Airports (NTA) is responsible for the operations and management of three airports, including Darwin International Airport (DIA).

Gary Leung, a student from the Macquarie University Green Steps program, was placed at Northern Territory Airports through the Green Steps program. Gary's internship project was to develop an Energy Efficiency Plan as part of DIA's Environment Strategy (which in turn is required under federal legislation).

As a result of Gary's careful data analysis, a number of metering and energy use anomalies were discovered and the DIA was able to claim a large sum of previously unaccounted funds for energy use! Gary also reviewed a carbon footprint that was developed as part of its National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER). Again, his careful number crunching revealed that errors had been made and the Airport was in fact reporting double its actual emissions from electricity use.

Thanks to Gary's internship, the Airports energy costs have been more accurately accounted for (with great savings) and due to a smaller than expected carbon footprint, the Airport is able to develop more realistic carbon management measures.

"Gary brought a fresh look and perspective to the Energy Efficiency Plan" says Jill Holdsworth, Environment Manager for NTA and Gary's supervisor "He was very professional from the outset and having him embedded in the organisation, as opposed to an external consultant, meant that he could find the relevant information more quickly and interview key personnel at short notice".

"Gary is the fourth Green Steps student we have hosted at NTA and I look forward to more in the future!"