

Challenges:

Providing Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing solutions across an array of industry in the UK is not without sustainability challenges. Carrying out services within these sustainable projects is often challenging, due to the nature of the M&E industry coupled with client requirements, specifications, and design. It is sometimes difficult to sustainably procure local materials and source local labour since this comes with a higher initial design and construction cost and is not always part of the original specification or design. In some cases, there is also a challenge on listed buildings given the set criterion in which M&E installation works must be carried out which make new and innovative installation methods difficult to employ.

Developers need to adapt and recognise the potential benefits that can be offset with sustainable construction and ensure that the process starts as early as possible during the design phase and client engagements. Despite the high costs, the benefits can still be recognised, for example through increased productivity in better working environments, reduced noise pollution and most importantly a sustainably designed building that may have long lasting cost benefits for future use and the society.

Impact:

With the help of the School, ROCMEP are taking measures towards reducing carbon footprint on and off projects. These include:

Making head office carbon neutral: Currently, recording energy usage to understand carbon footprint and introducing solar heating. Using energy-saving lighting and controls, recycling and re-use schemes, 365/7-day time switches on all water heaters and work-from-home options for staff.

EV Charging points: EV Charging points have been installed at the head-office so as to accommodate the use of electric vehicles for employees who drive to work.

Cycle-to-work schemes: This has also been incentivised for all employees.

Reducing paper wastage: On projects, the company have also introduced iPads and Project Management software for all site workers that allows them to reduce paper and printing and record changes in real-time.

Electric fleet: ROCMEP is also aiming to make their entire fleet of vehicles electric by 2025.

Fact box



Company

ROCMEP Ltd

No of employees

35

HQ

Crawley, West Sussex

Website

www.rocmepe.co.uk

Main contact

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Services

M&E services

About

ROCMEP is a leading M&E contractor, providing a full range of market leading mechanical and electrical engineering building services, tailored to clients' specific requirements. With their partnered approach, they work in close collaboration with the entire project team to deliver the best solutions from complex shell and core to full fit outs.

Value gained:

Increased knowledge on various sustainability topics: Through a completion of several assessments and training sessions, the School has helped ROCMEP bridge the gap of sustainability knowledge across projects. From here, the company has worked collectively to educate and bring awareness to all departments.

Current case studies: Additionally, the School allowed the company to hear from some of their development partners such as Willmott Dixon, how they have implemented their sustainability policy, and how ROCMEP can tailor tenders towards their sustainability criteria to become more attractive. The engagement events have been particularly useful in understanding how companies are approaching Net Zero carbon emissions. It was also enlightening to see through a poll how many companies are trying to work towards recording carbon emissions.

Flexible learning: Having the ability to access and learn from the e-learning modules from anywhere at any time allows the company to be flexible when introducing new ideas and knowledge that may support a new or improved strategy. The modules facilitate flexible working and the vast array of subjects available ensures that the most effective learning and topics can be given to the right employees. The other advantage that the e-learning modules have had is that the learning and refreshment of knowledge can be frequent, timed and effective throughout the year ensuring that sustainability remains a constant topic of conversation and communication for the company.

Benchmarking knowledge: The School has helped to benchmark the company's knowledge across various M&E construction projects. The assessments not only allow the company to identify its strengths and weaknesses but also to become aware in other areas of sustainability improvement that it may have not realised were available. The assessments provide a balanced scorecard so that the company can compare itself against the industry.

Increased brand awareness: Further analysis allows the company to tailor its policies, strategies and annual objectives so that it improves against the industry averages. This compliments the company's approach to continuous improvement and fits well with its quality management strategies.

Meeting sustainability requirements on tenders: The School has helped shape ROCMEP's sustainability policy going forward. The company's sustainability policy is consistently reviewed on a monthly basis to identify areas of improvement. ROCMEP have also committed to improving their supply chain to ensure that they have sustainability policies in place and that they are also committed towards working in a sustainable work environment.

Future proofing:

ROCMEP look forward to continuing their membership with the School; the insights provided through assessments, webinars and e-learning modules have been invaluable. With new resources and information becoming available, it is imperative for ROCMEP to continue to learn and apply these principles across the company.