

Challenges:

With regards to sustainability, Oakes Power Services' most significant challenges come from three main areas: the environmental impact resulting from the daily operation of their fleet, the generation of waste from their work activities, and their ability to educate and collaborate with their supply chain to ensure that they are on board and contribute positively to company sustainability goals.

Regarding the company's fleet operations, the focus remains on ensuring that works are planned logically to minimise their fuel consumption and carbon footprint, whilst recognising their responsibility to provide a flexible and responsive service to clients. The maintenance of the company's fleet is also a crucial focus whilst increasing the awareness of their drivers to drive safely and economically.

The company's focus on waste materials involves ensuring all the team are educated on which resources can be reused and recycled, how to action this, and how to deal with anything that needs to go to a landfill in a legal and responsible manner.

Oakes Power Services also engages with a varied supply chain with different challenges and considerations. The company wants to ensure that its expectations are clearly communicated and monitor performance regularly. Oakes Power Services wishes to work closely with its supply chain to improve any areas of concern.

Impact:

Through tackling these challenges and engaging with the Supply Chain Sustainability School, Oakes Power Services has improved knowledge and increased awareness throughout the business regarding how everyone can play their part in developing the business. The company has also encouraged its staff to think differently rather than approach things the same way they always have.

By having access to knowledge and guidance that provides up-to-date information and current thinking on key sustainability issues, Oakes Power Services can change its approach and implement processes, procedures and training that benefit the business in the long term. The School has allowed Oakes Power Services to select specific training and development areas for their team, make informed procurement decisions, and thoroughly evaluate their supply chain.

Business insight: Oakes Power Services has attended several webinars and Lunch 'n' Learn sessions and found them useful in understanding the perspective of other companies of various sizes, their challenges, and the steps they are taking to overcome these. As some of the Partners of the Supply Chain Sustainability School are also current or potential future clients of Oakes Power Services, these sessions also give the company valuable insight into their views, priorities,

Fact box



Company

Oakes Power Services Limited

No of employees

15

HQ

Chatham, Kent

Website

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Services

Upgrading rail infrastructure and maintaining private HV/LV Networks SAP Duties.

About

Based in Chatham, Kent, Oakes Power Services Limited work across the UK, providing specialist electrical engineering and electrification services for Network Rail, DNO, IDNO, London Underground, and private industrial and commercial clients.

and improvement plans. This helps the company develop their business performance to work more in line with current or potential clients' primary focuses.

Performance measurement: Oakes Power Services has found the School assessments beneficial. The assessments allow the company to evaluate their business critically and view how they develop over time regarding its focus and performance concerning sustainability.

Benchmarking: The company also found the action plan feature beneficial as it allows the business to focus on specific areas of improvement and track progress against the commitments that have been made. This ensures momentum is maintained and that Oakes Power Services can report their plan for improvements.

Internal training: The School's e-learning modules have been a great way of raising awareness and upskilling key people within the company about sustainability-related issues. The structure, content and focused information within the e-learning modules help keep attention on training and ensure the benefits of learning are maximised.

Value gained:

A better understanding of sustainability: For Oakes Power Services, the most significant benefit of being a member of the School is raising awareness around sustainability within the company. This has led to many internal conversations about how the company can do things differently and more effectively. The School has provided key team members with new knowledge and skills that allow Oakes Power Services to shape its approach to sustainability and understand best practices and new ways of working within the industry.

Continuous improvement: The short and long-term value that Oakes Power Services receives by being part of the School includes being able to externally demonstrate its commitment to continuous improvement in several key areas.

Future proofing:

Oakes Power Services' future plans include engaging more with the School in order to establish itself as a potential Partner. Another goal of the company is to consider how the Supply Chain Sustainability School's resources and learning modules could be used more within the company to benefit the workforce.

Oakes Power Services also want to encourage its supply chain to register and learn with the School. This would reintegrate the benefits the School has provided Oakes Power Services with a potential revamp of its onboarding process to include School membership in their approved supplier questionnaire criteria.