

CASE STUDY: JOHN F HUNT DEMOLITION

BACKGROUND

John F Hunt Demolition was formed by John Hall in 1982 concentrating on all aspects of complex, technical Demolition and Industrial Dismantling and has grown to become one of the leading demolition contractors in the UK today.

Over the years it has expanded operations to encompass many related activities such as Controlled Explosive Demolition, Robotic Demolition, Temporary Works, Civil Engineering and Pre Construction Advice, with an additional two divisions focusing on Asbestos Removal and Concrete Cutting.

Working with property developers, industrialists, Contractors and local authorities throughout the private and public sectors, they focus on the safe demolition of town centre commercial buildings, high rise tower blocks, the industrial demolition of process plants and explosive demolition. Much of their work is carried out in densely populated areas where the utmost consideration is required for the surrounding environment.

Daniel Sweeney is the Environment Manager for John F Hunt Demolition and is responsible for driving forward sustainability within the business, working alongside the Health and Safety Managers. Some of the key challenges they face relate to waste management, carbon emissions, environmental awareness on site, as well as social issues in relation to the use of local labour, supply and community engagement.



INITIAL ENGAGEMENT

John F Hunt first joined the School in February 2016 as a result of identifying the potential in using an online hub of information that can be used internally and externally to help implement environmental objectives and targets.

SELF-ASSESSMENT & ACTION PLAN

The first self-assessment was completed in February 2016 by the Senior Health, Safety and Environment Manager, followed by the first re-assessment in July 2016 by Daniel. He has shared the knowledge recommended in the Action Plans with colleagues from the Health, Safety and Environment team who were then given the responsibility for driving forward specific actions.

Some of the School's e-learning courses were recommended via the Action Plans, which have proven to be extremely valuable resources to the company, having been promoted both internally and within their supply chains, especially to those involved in Environmental Management, Carbon, Water and BIM. Daniel favours e-learning simply because "...the courses are short, simple, engaging, easy to dip in and out of and don't feel like a burden".

He explains that "...the self-assessment process itself is simple and user friendly. Not only has it helped to highlight areas for improvement, but has also helped to reassure the team of their progress in many of the sustainability issues." John F Hunt Demolition plan to use the self-assessment tool on a regular basis, monitoring the increase in their knowledge and competence through the member 'dashboard', sharing progress with their customers and using it as a method of promotion to their own supply chain.

IMPACT

As a result of engaging in the School, John F Hunt have:

- ✓ **Used the School's e-learning modules** on water, waste, carbon, environmental management to up-skill more than 50 staff (Managers and Operatives) which in turn has helped to reduce costs on site and has minimised carbon emissions
- ✓ **Actively promoted the use of the School to their suppliers**—they see the School an integral tool in ensuring that all parties across the supply chain understand the sustainability challenges faced by their sector
- ✓ **Gained a better understanding of the Construction 2025 targets** and set targets in line with these, for example in reducing greenhouse gases by 50%.
- ✓ **Used the School's range of resources available on carbon** to ensure that the carbon management schemes used throughout the company, links to the most relevant and up to date information available
- ✓ **Used the e-learning modules on BIM** to ensure the estimating and modelling teams are reminded of the impact BIM can have on a development, and as a general 'refresher' on BIM

- ✓ **Taken a proactive approach to the School** and encouraged continual improvement within their own projects such as the London Fruit and Wool Exchange which achieved a 99.9% waste recycle rate.
- ✓ Agreed that as the company is growing and the supply chain is expanding, they will start to **embed the use of the School into their supply chain agreements and processes**, in the same way as their customers are doing with them.
- ✓ **Decided to monitor the increase in their score on the self-assessment over time**, and promote this to their supply chain partners and clients.

BENEFITS

Increased 'Green Credentials' and improved competitive advantage—John F Hunt are fully committed to environmental management on all their sites. The School's resources, particularly the e-learning modules on carbon, waste and water have helped the team identify ways in which they can further reduce their environmental impact, consequently ambitious targets have been set regarding the companies environmental performance. John F Hunt believe that this level of ambition will be recognised by current and future customers.

Cost savings - linked into the above, on site reductions in relation to carbon emissions, water usage and waste has contributed to significant cost savings.

Collaboration and cooperation throughout the value chain—John F Hunt believe the School allows for greater partnerships and cooperation between clients, contractors and the supply chain, focusing on a common set of goals and providing a wealth of information on how to achieve them.

Minimising environmental risk—Through the support of the School and the resources they provide, John F Hunt are more confident in delivering sustainability initiatives on site. This has been achieved through the up-skilling of management and operatives using the School's resources, and consequently minimising environmental risk on site, ultimately leading to improved sustainability performance.

THE FUTURE

In order for John F Hunt to continue benefiting from the School it is important to:

- ✓ Focus on engaging more suppliers and clients in the School (ie Partners, through both events and sharing resources) to help ensure all parties are on the same page with regards to environmental issue on and off site.
- ✓ Expand learning opportunities to operatives and management on site. This will ensure the upskilling of the workforce, improving efficiencies, saving money and becoming more competitive.
- ✓ Continue to update the learning resources to reflect changes in industry regulations and standards, and local / national policy.

