

Challenges:

The primary challenges for Van Elle are around emissions from rigs, the transport of plant and materials and raw material usage. To combat this a key focus has been on the early design support to customers to ensure the most economical solution, as well as looking to significantly reduce waste from factories and projects with Van Elle preferring to recycle and reuse.

There is a working group responsible for reducing concrete waste and overbreak on piles with a target of 5% reduction in total concrete use by 2023; currently in progress is a project to develop a cement free concrete which is due for completion by 2023.



This year, Van Elle launched their new 10-year Sustainability Plan to support the business across the 5 divisions, and all project sites.

Impact

- **Company wide learning:** All key members from across the business have been able to access training sessions, and in particular the highways teams who are widely using the carbon reporting Tool in support of the RDP works.
- **“Next Generation” involvement:** Van Elle’s apprentices and young graduates have accessed training and their enthusiasm for sustainability issues has been harnessed and supported by their management teams
- **Collaborative learning:** Attending training sessions with the School has offered Van Elle many interesting points of view and ideas for implementation within their own business
- **Supply chain engagement:** Van Elle have taken steps to persuade their own supply chain and business partners of the benefits of the School. This has been implemented through supplier approval procedures where being a member of the School is wholly encouraged

Value gained:

- **Personal Development:** The School’s learning and resources have been accessed by the team at their leisure and allowed them to take part in modules which are of personal interest. Positive feedback has been received with colleagues pleased to add additional skills to their personal development goals
- **Fairness, Inclusion & Respect:** For the first time, Van Elle will have site-based personnel who have undergone FIR and MHFA training
- **10 Year Sustainability Plan:** Van Elle’s 10-year sustainability plan was supported through learning achieved within the School by capturing and adopting some of the ideas and viewpoints presented during content and training
- **Improved Reputation:** In the case of one, the Environment Performance Assessment Framework for HS2, embarking on this new learning path encouraged Van Elle to start on the PAF levels of assessment (through the School) with a view to

Fact box



Company

Van Elle

No of employees

500+

HQ

Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire

Website

<https://www.van-elle.co.uk>

Key Contact

Jan Jones, Business Development Manager

Services

Ground engineering and geotechnical contractor

About

Over the past 35 years, Van Elle has grown to become the UK’s leading ground engineering and geotechnical contractor, successfully completing more than 20,000 projects in this period, and building a reputation for delivering high quality foundation and ground engineering solutions.

achieving Gold in 14 months' time. This is of particular importance to HS2 and therefore a priority for Van Elle as one of their geotechnical specialists.

Future Proofing:

Van Elle will continue to promote the use of the SCSS throughout the workforce and supply chain as it offers an added dimension to their training programme.

"It is easy to use, the staff at the School are massively supportive, and all the training is professional, well researched, relevant, and free! Our SCSS membership continues to go from strength to strength both within Van Elle and our partner organisations." – Jan Jones, Business Development Manager

