

Challenges:



The biggest challenge Story faces is that sustainability is not always at the forefront for some clients and so the company must make a conscious effort to ensure all colleagues are aware of the benefits of a sustainable future. By working with the

Supply Chain Sustainability School, Story has been able to access resources to enhance the knowledge of all staff through attending training sessions, accessing resources and undertaking e-learning modules. Story also works together with clients and suppliers to enhance each other's knowledge and work collaboratively to make a positive impact on our future.

Impact:

Engaging with the School has helped to have the following impacts on Story:

Sourcing sustainable products: Giving clients the option at tender stage to change their specifications to include products which will have a better impact on the environment and also on personal health has helped to increase Story's own knowledge of these products and also opened their eyes to a wider market of products.



Electric Fleet: Steps have been taken towards the introduction of electric vehicles and the company has now invested in 2 electric cars. A slow and controlled introduction of electric site vehicles is under review.

Paper reduction: The introduction of new software from start to finish of a project and within Story's warehouse has resulted in less paper being used as all information is online.

Technology: The introduction of tablets for all supervisors so paperwork can be filled in and returned online has again reduced paper waste and also Story's carbon footprint. No visits to the office are needed to print out information as they always have it on hand. Story's move to new premises allowed for the review of systems. The company now has automatic lights and water butts as well as further changes that are being reviewed.

Fact box



Company

Story Decorating Group

No of employees

50+

HQ

Carlisle and Manchester

Website

www.storydecoratinggroup.com

Main contact

Claire Story
clairestory@storydecoratinggroup.com

Services

Commercial painting and decorating contractors

About

Story are not your average painter and decorator. The company's unrivalled expertise and experience has allowed them to take on and add the perfect finishing touches to construction projects across the UK.

Recycling schemes: Working with main contractors to utilise their own recycling schemes as well as suppliers has managed to reduce Story's waste and costs when it comes to skip hire. This has also massively increased awareness of the correct way to dispose of all materials. This has paved the way for the introduction of a paint donation scheme at the end of each project that Story completes.

Value gained:

Training: Story has identified knowledge gaps in areas through taking a company assesment and has been able to outline training plans going forward. These training plans can be completed online thanks to the e-learning modules provided by the School.

Offsite: Having already established an offsite section of Story's business, the School's resources helps to promote Story's offsite facility and its benefits to clients, those being not only cost, but also the reduction of carbon footprint due to less staff attending sites.

New opportunities: Gold-level membership with the Supply Chain Sustainability School is increasingly desirable to some of Story's clients. By showing commitment to achieving the Gold-level membership with the School, Story will be rewarded with more opportunities.

Benchmarking knowledge: The assessments were very useful to benchmark Story's progress and also to see where the company stands in regards to the industry as well as identifying areas for improvement.

Speaking opportunities: Story has been asked previously to speak at an engagement event by a main contractor to discuss their experience with the Supply Chain Sustainability School and how they feel it has impacted their business. This was a great experience as the company was able to share what they have gained and how to utilise the School's resources. As a result of Story's engagement in the event, many more suppliers have decided to join the Supply Chain Sustainability School and increase their awareness.



Future proofing:

Story aims and plans to have all managers registered on the Supply Chain Sustainability School so they can identify individual areas for improvement and expand knowledge of sustainability in all areas. This in turn will help the managers to identify areas that Story needs to concentrate on moving forward.