

Challenges:

Glendining Signs, a print company, faces various sustainability challenges, including the energy consumption of its equipment, the environmental impact of inks used, and the use of plastics in the industry. PVC, in particular, has historically played a significant role as a substrate for printed signage. However, due to its poor recyclability, the company has shifted towards using products such as PP that have a lower environmental impact.

The company has taken several steps to reduce its plastic use across all products, particularly in packaging. Since 2019, Glendining Signs has replaced LDPE bubble wrap with a 50% recycled corrugated card, which can be recycled at the end of its use. As a result, the company has reduced its CO2e emissions by 22.43 tonnes, which is equivalent to charging 2,728,172.00 smartphones based on its usage.

Glendining Signs' commitment to sustainability is evident in its proactive approach to finding alternatives to harmful materials and implementing changes that have a positive environmental impact.

Impact:

Highlighting best practices: Glendining Signs has benefitted greatly from the resources available through the Supply Chain Sustainability School. The e-learning module on 'Sustainable Use & Management of Plastics', in particular, has highlighted best practices and helped the company identify products with greater environmental impact. This knowledge has informed the company's response to sustainability challenges, and the tools provided, such as the Waste Hierarchy, have allowed Glendining Signs to prioritise actions taken with plastic waste and evaluate its products and operations.

Identifying areas of development: The assessments provided by the Supply Chain Sustainability School have been an excellent tool for identifying areas of development within the organisation. The benchmarking feature allows for easy comparison with others in similar sectors, motivating Glendining Signs to strive for success and sustainable practices.

The action plan is a helpful way for the Supply Chain Sustainability School to flag useful resources based on the assessments, increasing knowledge and understanding in key areas. Reassessment cannot be undertaken until the learning plan is complete, encouraging true engagement with the site and facilitating successful and meaningful learning.

Targeted e-Learning modules: The e-learning modules integrated into the action plan are targeted to educate and evaluate learning, encouraging a good level of engagement and facilitating successful learning on key topics. The clear and simple way the modules are

Fact box



Company

Glendining Signs Ltd

No of employees

40

HQ

Theale, Reading, Berkshire.

Website

www.glendining.co.uk

Main contact

info@glendining.co.uk

Services

Manufacture and supply of printed signs and related products.

About

Glendining Signs is a reputable, ethical, and dependable sign supplier that is committed to providing the best solutions for its valued customers. The company aspires to develop and grow while maintaining a strong commitment to sustainability. Glendining Signs is dedicated to achieving a successful and sustainable future by continuously improving its products and services to meet the changing needs of its clients.

presented offers an easy-to-digest way of learning suited to all levels of understanding.

Glendining Signs accessed the module 'Sustainable Use & Management of Plastics' in this way, adding value to the business by validating previous actions and bringing future requirements into clearer focus. The printable certificate offered upon successful completion of the module serves as further motivation to develop knowledge and gain both personal and company-wide credibility. The knowledge and understanding gained through the Supply Chain Sustainability School have underlined previously held knowledge and highlighted areas of future action, such as working more closely with the supply chain to eradicate any risks of modern slavery associated with the business.

Value gained:

Environmental benefits of membership: The reduction in plastic packaging achieved by Glendining Signs is an obvious environmental benefit of its Supply Chain Sustainability School membership. The knowledge gained from the School has helped the company to identify areas where further reductions in plastic use or the switch to easier-to-recycle options can be made. As construction is the company's main client base, they have seen a significant increase in focus on sustainability, and being a member of the School allows them to comply with and exceed the expectations of their clients.

Complying and exceeding expectations: Glendining Signs' membership of the School sends a powerful message that the company is a responsible organisation driven to develop its sustainable credentials in line with its business goals. This message is backed up by the actions taken by the company, creating a compelling story that will help attract new business. By demonstrating its commitment to sustainability through its membership with the School, Glendining Signs is able to meet the expectations of its clients and work towards a more sustainable future.

Future proofing:

Glendining Signs plans to continue its learning with the Supply Chain Sustainability School and run several projects in line with its newfound knowledge. The company is committed to taking action to reduce its environmental impact and build on the progress it has made thus far.

The company also appreciates the inclusive design of the Supply Chain Sustainability School's learning modules, which include both written content and read-aloud options. This approach is particularly beneficial for those with learning differences that may make reading large blocks of text difficult. Going forward, Glendining Signs believes that an option for 'larger fonts' or 'simple layouts' would be a great addition to the site to better support partially sighted users.

Overall, Glendining Signs values its membership in the Supply Chain Sustainability School and looks forward to continuing to learn and take action to improve its sustainability practices.