

Challenges:



Fuel consumption is a significant challenge for UBCIVILS, particularly due to the large plant and material transport requirements. Some clients have suggested that using HVO fuels could reduce the company's carbon footprint, while others have banned their use due to concerns about the impact on land use and the potential for deforestation and destruction of peatland/marshland.

To address this challenge, UBCIVILS is committed to phasing out diesel wherever possible and using the most efficient plant with the lowest emission standards. The company is also exploring the use of electric, hybrid, and hydrogen technologies where available. In addition, UBCIVILS is training operators on fuel efficiency and implementing telematics on plant to monitor fuel usage and utilisation, as well as GPS machine control to maximise productivity.

Hydrogen technology may offer the most practical clean solution for fuelling larger earthmoving equipment in the future. UBCIVILS is committed to collaborating with clients to find sustainable solutions that meet their needs and minimize the company's environmental impact.

Impact:

Gaining Accreditation and Achieving Sustainability Goals: The Supply Chain Sustainability School has had a significant impact on UBCIVILS, as it was promoted to the company by three separate Tier 1 contractors over the past few years. One client even organized a workshop and provided guidance on the process of registering and gaining accreditation. This experience has given UBCIVILS the opportunity to reassess its sustainability goals and develop an action plan with realistic and achievable objectives.

Enhancing Knowledge and Setting Goals with the School's

Resources: UBCIVILS has discovered that an array of assessments provided by the School has greatly broadened its comprehension of how various sectors of the construction industry are progressing. These assessments ought to be specified to highlight the profound impact they've had on the company's operations. A significant resource identified was the 'Value of Digital Investment', which underscored potential benefits for the industry at large, exhibiting pragmatic methods of advancement. This has spurred UBCIVILS to further invest in GPS machine control, fostering close collaborations with Tier 1 contractors to create data models aimed at reducing the

Fact box

UBCIVILS

Company

UBCIVILS LTD

No of employees

95

HQ

Inverness, Highland

Website

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Main contact

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Services

Civil Engineering for Infrastructure, renewable and Construction projects

About

Established in 2011, UBCIVILS Ltd is a civil engineering company with a proven track record of delivering projects for both private and public sector clients, and is experienced in working in challenging and remote locations. UBCIVILS's team has the capability to successfully complete complex projects across a wide range of sectors.

need for onsite resources. Such initiatives have resulted in marked improvements in safety management, benefiting the overall project schedule.

UBCIVILS further recognises that the action plans, as delineated by the School, will play a crucial role in establishing objectives and monitoring progress towards achieving net zero.

Moreover, UBCIVILS has found several intriguing e-learning modules, which have substantially enhanced the company's understanding of the progression across different sectors. It would be beneficial to specify the modules that were found interesting, and the impact they've had on the business. Notably, the Fairness, Inclusion and Respect (FIR) programme stands out as an industry-wide initiative striving to improve workplaces for all. This programme has instilled the confidence to effectively revise the company's policies related to CSR, Equal Opportunities, GDPR, Modern Slavery, Psychological Hazards, and Training & Development.

Value gained:

Better placed to meet client requirements: UBCIVILS has found value in its membership with the School, as it has enabled the company to align its goals with those of its clients and demonstrate a responsible approach to the environment. This is particularly important in the construction industry, as only contractors that can show a commitment to sustainability are typically invited to bid on major projects.

Increased sustainability knowledge and efficient work practices: In addition to providing a platform to showcase UBCIVILS's commitment to sustainability, membership of the School has also helped the company identify more efficient ways of working and reducing its impact on the planet. Overall, membership of the School has been a valuable experience for UBCIVILS.

Future proofing:

UBCIVILS plans to continue sharing the benefits of the Supply Chain Sustainability School with its wider workforce, ensuring that all employees have a heightened understanding of the challenges facing the construction industry and are encouraged to contribute to developing solutions. This will help UBCIVILS maintain its commitment to sustainability and continue to find ways to improve its practices in the future.