

Challenges:

Powerday PLC's primary challenge in reaching its Net Zero goals is fuel consumption and the availability and readiness of 'green' alternatives for its HGV and plant fleet. HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) has been at the forefront of green alternative fuels. While Powerday has been trialing the fuel in a percentage of its HGVs, the company has encountered serious problems during the trials due to issues of fuel contamination leading to vehicle breakdowns. For this reason, HVO has not been a realistic alternative for Powerday to fully invest in at this stage. However, the company will continue to trial the fuel across a range of HGVs and plant equipment on two of its sites until better alternatives become available.

Powerday PLC is committed to addressing the challenges associated with fuel consumption and has already replaced all company staff vehicles with electric alternatives, significantly reducing emissions. Following the successful trial of the first electric skip vehicle in the UK in 2022, the company has placed an order for two additional electric skip vehicles to expand its fleet. While this may appear to be a modest number, it constitutes 10% of Powerday's annual fleet purchase and 2% of its overall fleet. Although hydrogen alternatives may represent a potential future direction, it is not expected to be commercially viable for another few years at least. These new alternatives are still in their trial phases, and with technology continuously being developed and lessons being learned, Powerday is eager to remain at the forefront of trialing these options before making a final decision on the best way forward to minimize the company's environmental impact.

Impact:

Powerday PLC has established an internal Carbon Working Group, comprising individuals from various departments within the company. This group convenes quarterly to discuss Powerday's environmental impact and explore initiatives each department can undertake to achieve the company's Net Zero goals. As part of the induction process for this group, all participants were required to complete a series of courses through the Supply Chain Sustainability School. It was crucial for Powerday that attendees at these meetings possessed an understanding of the company's sustainability goals and could actively contribute to making a difference within their respective departments and across the organization. The modules covered in the induction include:

- An Introduction to Climate Change and Carbon
- Carbon Foot printing and Measurement
- Carbon Reporting
- Carbon Reduction, Offsetting and Net Zero

Staff at Powerday found the modules to be highly informative. This approach enabled them to complete the modules at their own pace, which was deemed more effective than conducting workshops to convey the information.

Fact box



Company

Powerday PLC

No of employees

250

HQ

Willesden, London

Website

www.powerday.co.uk

Main contact

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Services

Waste management and recycling solutions for construction & demolition waste, skip & bin hire and more.

About

Powerday is an independent family business providing responsible waste management services to help clients manage their resources sustainably. Powerday are proud of their role in helping reduce the environmental impact of the UK waste and of using the company's sustained growth to support local communities.

The platform also provides an opportunity for staff to delve deeper into any topics they found particularly insightful or useful. It serves as a valuable resource for conveniently refreshing their knowledge.

Powerday PLC has recently established a relationship with Wormwood Scrubs prison, situated near our Old Oak Sidings site. The company have been providing inmates with the opportunity to 'trial a day' working at Powerday, with the goal of offering employment to those individuals upon their release from prison. The Supply Chain Sustainability School conducted a workshop on working with prisons, offering valuable insights into how other companies have successfully implemented similar schemes. The staff at Powerday found the knowledge-sharing to be highly valuable for both them and the company.

Value gained:

Trusted Waste Management Provider: Powerday has found value in its membership with Supply Chain Sustainability School as it allows the company to demonstrate to clients that its sustainability goals align with theirs. Given the increasing prominence of sustainability in the construction industry, especially during tender and development stages, it is a great way for Powerday to showcase its commitments to improving the environment.

Creating an ESG Strategy: The Supply Chain Sustainability School has proven valuable for Powerday staff by providing the opportunity to acquire knowledge in sustainability. The skills and knowledge gained on the platform can then be transferred to their day-to-day work, assisting in creating goals for their departments to align with Powerday's sustainability goals.

Future proofing:

It was important to Powerday to ensure that initially, all directors, managers, and the senior management team received sustainability training, as they are the key decision-makers when it comes to reaching their goals. However, the ultimate objective is for every member of the staff to have a level of understanding and education so that collectively, ways to improve practices can be identified and work towards building a successful future for the company.