

Challenges:

As a global leader in the multichannel distribution of professional products and services for the energy sector, Rexel centralises sustainability within its strategy for value creation. The company aims not only to decrease direct emissions from its operations but also to champion the highest environmental standards across the industry. The objective is to positively influence the 600 million tons of CO2 emitted annually throughout the entire value chain.

Every entity in the supply chain is at a different stage in terms of sustainability. Each company monitors varied aspects, resulting in an absence of uniformity or standardisation. In this regard, Rexel holds a crucial role in collaborating with the diverse stakeholders in its ecosystem to select the most responsible and eco-efficient products for its customers.

The primary mechanisms through which Rexel can contribute to a more environmentally friendly world include:

- Mobilising suppliers to transition towards increasingly responsible products (scope 3)
- Supporting customers and raising their awareness to promote green, eco-efficient solutions (scope 3)
- Educating employees on solutions that address social and environmental challenges
- Minimising the CO2 emissions associated with internal operations (scopes 1 & 2)
- Engaging in public debate and expanding knowledge on climate and environmental issues (scopes 1, 2 & 3)

Impact:

Enhancing sustainability education: By leveraging the resources of the Supply Chain Sustainability School, Rexel has managed to engage in meaningful discussions with various stakeholders while further educating its employees. Complemented by its internal Climate School, Rexel capitalises on the Supply Chain Sustainability School's available e-learning modules to expedite the learning process across a range of subjects, thereby accelerating the transition towards a more sustainable business model.

Streamlining strategic objectives: The School's assessments and subsequent action plans have proven to be fantastic tools. They have uncovered previously overlooked gaps and provided a lucid, concise, and systematic path towards increased responsibility. Rexel was able to devise a custom plan with Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART) objectives that coherently aligned with its overarching strategy.

Boosting ESG accountability: As a business, Rexel's accountability is structured through Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) measures. The School has been instrumental in aligning Rexel's approach to ESG, impacting its customers, suppliers, and employees. The company has particularly benefitted

Fact box



Company

Rexel

No of employees

2,300

HQ

Sheldon, Birmingham

Website

www.rexel.co.uk

Main contact

Begum Nash
Sustainability & CSR Manager
national.tenders@rexel.co.uk

Services

Leading global distributor of
Electrical Products, Energy
Management Solutions, PPE
and Site Supplies

About

Rexel supports its residential, commercial, and industrial customers by providing a tailored and scalable range of products and services in energy management for construction, renovation, production, and maintenance.

from the 'Understanding Social Value' webinar, as well as the 'Understanding Best Practice in Combatting Modern Slavery' training session. This area is one that Rexel takes very seriously, maintaining a high level of diligence and encouraging collaboration across multiple teams.

Value gained:

Expanding knowledge base: School membership has furnished Rexel with an additional knowledge hub comprising subject matter experts across all facets of sustainability. This resource has empowered various departments to educate themselves, stay abreast of the latest topics, and disseminate this information throughout the wider business.

Enriching bid responses: Rexel's bid team has also reaped significant benefits from the School, gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by their customers. This knowledge has aided in crafting more informed tender responses, a result evident in the company's improved scoring in this area.

Boosting reputation assurance: Through interactions with their customers, many of whom are members of the School, Rexel has come to appreciate the enhanced reputation and assurance that this membership has provided.

Future proofing:

Rexel acknowledges and values the adaptive nature of the School and its leadership role in educating the industry. The company anticipates ongoing utilisation of the School's extensive resource library to guide its business in accordance with its strategy, foster dialogue with its customers and suppliers, and cultivate a circular economy approach to minimise the impact on natural resources.