

## Challenges:

In 1987, the United Nations Brundtland Commission defined sustainability as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” For the tile distributor, this involves sustainable sourcing of tiles to minimize negative impacts on the environment, society, and the economy. This includes considering factors for manufacturing such as optimizing water usage, use of recycled materials, minimizing carbon footprint, using renewable resources of energy, reducing waste, and ensuring fair labour practices throughout the supply chain.

Furthermore, tile manufacturing is an energy-intensive process in which tiles are subjected to thermal treatments at high temperatures, sometimes reaching as high as 1,200 degrees Celsius. The energy used in the process mainly comes from the combustion of natural gas, hence why continuous innovation in manufacturing is required to reduce CO2 emissions.

## Impact:

Engagement with the School has allowed CTD Tiles Ltd to create custom learning plans using the convenient e-learning platform developed by the Supply Chain Sustainability School. The learning materials have enhanced the understanding and knowledge of the team and enriched sustainable procurement practices.

Embedding the Sustainable Procurement module created by the School has been extremely valuable to the business and serves as a good introduction to the ISO 20400 Strategic Framework. This framework has allowed us to enhance our understanding of the fundamentals of sustainability, identify and engage stakeholders, include sustainability in policy and strategy, and embed sustainability into the procurement process.

Sustainable procurement practices enable the sourcing of ethically manufactured, low embodied carbon products for UK customers, supporting the transition to a net-zero carbon economy and helping to achieve targets for net zero by 2050.

## Resources:

**Assessments** – CTD Tiles Limited find the School's assessments a straightforward process with an excellent spider-web diagram, providing a clear visual comparison of the scores in comparison to school and sector averages.

**Action Plan** – CTD Tiles Limited view the action plan as Tailor-made and well-structured plan allowing to provide learning for a specific area of sustainability.

## Fact box



### Company

CTD Tiles Limited

### No of employees

450

### HQ

Kings Norton, Birmingham

### Website

<https://www.ctdtiles.co.uk/>

### Main contact

Dan Chepa

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### Services

UK Tile Distributor

### About

The CTD Tile Ltd specialises in sourcing and supplying a vast range of high-quality tile designs to all sectors of the interior and architectural market. With over 40 years of experience, CTD is one of the leading names in the industry, striving to bring the latest advances in tile manufacturing to each individual collection as well as considering consumer demands, from the desirability of classic design styles to the latest cutting-edge trends.

**E-learning modules** – CTD Tiles Limited see these as Interactive modules designed to support all levels of learners, starting from beginner, and going all way up to expert and leader.

## Value gained:

Engagement with the School allowed access to a valuable assessment of various dimensions of sustainability and comparing scores to other companies in the industry and overall scores for the Supply Chain Sustainability School members. This exercise alone led to the identification of areas for improvement, which are supported with relevant leading modules developed by the Supply Chain Sustainability School.

Furthermore, membership of the School provided a strong message to our customers that CTD Tiles Ltd is a responsible organization with a continuous drive to enhance the sustainability of the company's operations further.

## Future proofing:

Moving forward, it would be beneficial to widen access to the learning platform to other functions within CTD, such as product management, inbound and outbound logistics. This will allow for the enhancement of a cross-functional approach to sustainability at CTD Tiles Ltd. Perhaps even including the School's modules into CPD for the teams and the onboarding process for new team members.