

Challenges:

Sustainability is a priority at RW Joinery, particularly concerning energy and carbon reduction, both for the benefit of the environment and to support clients in achieving their offset goals. The company implemented a carbon reduction policy in 2010, aiming to decrease carbon output by 55% by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2040.

In the realm of timber and door manufacturing, sustainability practices have advanced over the past two decades. Timber products in door set manufacturing typically incorporate wood-based materials with FSC or PEFC chain of custody certification. FSC members undergo annual audits to ensure compliance with certified product usage, minimizing the use of non-sustainable timbers—an objective RW Joinery strives to achieve.

Challenges arise from the current geopolitical climate. RW Joinery employs a specific high acoustic timber-based door core, sourced from Russia, and manufactured in Poland. Although the product previously held a full FSC certificate, the unavailability of Russian material has led to the adoption of a non-FSC alternative.

This challenge is not confined to Europe. Materials arriving from the Far East are now taking a longer route to Europe around South Africa, bypassing the Suez Canal, and increasing the carbon



footprint. While the product remains sustainable in its forestry element, the environmental impact is notable due to the altered shipping routes.

Impact:

Accessible learning styles – RW Joinery has found that by engaging with the Supply Chain Sustainability School, the company now has access to a plethora of educational tools. These tools enable employees to explore topics of their interest and gain insights into important sustainability issues. The availability of a diverse range of learning tools has proven useful, allowing employees to engage with content in various formats and styles.

Important topics – RW Joinery has particularly enjoyed learning about carbon footprint measurement, carbon reduction, the impact on climate change, and the significance of social value in a company through the engagement with the Supply Chain Sustainability School. Although the company had already taken steps to increase social value in the local area, the

Fact box



Company

RW Joinery (Stockport) Ltd

No of employees

95

HQ

Mersey Street, Stockport

Website

www.rwjoinery.co.uk

Main contact

Eleanor Robinson

Eleanor.robinson@rwjoinery.co.uk

Services

RW Joinery is the all-in-one provider of fire door sets offering the specification, manufacture, installation, and maintenance of premium fire-rated door sets.

About

Established in 1967, RW Joinery is a leading fire door manufacturer, installer, and maintenance company based in Stockport. Fully accredited and providing services nationwide, our goal is to raise the standards of fire safety across healthcare, education, and public sectors.

School has played a crucial role in helping RW Joinery understand the importance of incorporating these aspects into tenders and the company's website.

Accountability through self-assessment - RW Joinery has found value in the self-assessment tool available on the School's website. The company believes that this tool is instrumental in holding itself accountable for continuous learning about sustainability and translating this knowledge into practice. Additionally, it provides insights into where RW Joinery stands compared to other companies operating in similar fields.



Value gained:

Increased competitive advantage and better suited to meet client requirements – Joining the School has expanded RW Joinery's capabilities and knowledge in sustainability, enabling the company to contribute more effectively to sustainable practices and better align with clients' needs. The hope is that by encouraging employees to utilize the School's readily available educational tools, they will possess more in-depth knowledge when discussing clients' needs. This strategic approach aims to provide a competitive advantage for RW Joinery in winning new projects and clients.

Future proofing:

RW Joinery hopes to maintain its gold-level membership with the School by leveraging the available resources to support continuous learning. The company also anticipates that SCSS can play a supportive role in its journey towards achieving carbon neutrality by 2040.