

Challenges:

AW Construction's varied commercial refurbishment, shopfitting and strip-out projects generate significant waste, particularly timber. Initial discussions with waste contractors revealed that much timber recycling occurs outside the UK and did not align with the company's vision for local reuse. Client demand for detailed waste-disposal data and rising skip-hire costs prompted AW Construction to develop an in-house reuse and recycling initiative covering timber, brick and metal. Engaging local community groups and educational institutions uncovered a strong demand for these materials, enabling the company to supply timber and bricks to colleges for construction training, and paint, flooring and glass to charities and community projects. As the initiative grew by word of mouth, managing demand and sustaining reductions in skip hire and disposal fees became a key challenge

Impact:

AW Construction's recycling initiative benefited greatly from the Supply Chain Sustainability School's webinars on recycling, social value and sustainable procurement. The company refined its approach using best-practice insights, ensuring high-value materials were given a second life to support local organisations and deliver social and financial benefits. Collaboration with communities and charities has connected people from diverse backgrounds, developed construction skills in the education sector and reinforced a more sustainable outlook. Having the School's resources at its fingertips has provided AW Construction with guidance on industry standards, enabling deeper client and stakeholder engagement and strengthening its growing community of recyclers.

Engagement events: AW Construction's team has attended a wide range of School workshops and webinars, gaining valuable insights into sustainable practices. These events have empowered the recycling project, enhanced understanding of environmental requirements in tender submissions and supported responses for trade-body accreditations. Instant access to expert advice and industry trends via the School has allowed the company to remain focused on sustainability developments and broader construction-industry topics.

Resources: The School's assessments identified AW Construction's current sustainability performance, highlighted improvement opportunities and provided benchmarking against industry standards. Action plans guided the company in setting achievable sustainability goals, prioritising resources and tracking progress. E-learning modules enhanced the knowledge of project and sustainability leads, improving supplier engagement, reducing

Fact box



Company

AW Construction Services Limited

No of employees

30

HQ

Stanley Court, Shearway Business Park, Folkestone, Kent

Website

<https://www.awltd.co.uk/construction/>

Main contact

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Services

Wide range of services from refurbishment, strip out, shopfitting across the commercial sector.

About

AW Construction offers over ten years of construction solutions, including residential, commercial and industrial refurbishment, renovations, shopfitting and enabling works. Its skilled team delivers projects on time and within budget, prioritising safety, innovation and sustainable construction practices for a wide range of local and national clients.

environmental impact and strengthening compliance with ESG standards, thereby supporting more responsible sourcing and operational efficiencies.

Value gained:

Membership of the Supply Chain Sustainability School has delivered immense value by offering free, high-quality training and resources that build skills and knowledge for responsible operation. The School's collaborative platform enables benchmarking and progress tracking, helping AW Construction align with client expectations and emerging regulations. CPD-accredited modules in areas such as carbon reduction, modern slavery, diversity and sustainable procurement have driven practical action and cultural change. Participation has boosted the company's reputation, reduced risk and supported its transition to a more sustainable built environment, providing a competitive edge through innovation, compliance readiness and stronger stakeholder relationships.

Future proofing:

AW Construction aims to deepen its partnership with the Supply Chain Sustainability School by engaging in tailored training and collaborative initiatives. Future involvement will focus on enhancing sustainable practices in refurbishment and strip-out works, supported by sector-specific guidance and best-practice sharing.