

Challenges:

At MEP Concepts, sustainability is a core part of its daily work, whether guiding clients to meet complex ESG goals or helping them comply with planning conditions. The company delivers high-quality, pragmatic, end-to-end solutions grounded in real-world application.

One of the key challenges it faces is the fast-evolving nature of ESG strategies. Often, clients turn to MEP Concepts not just to meet targets but to define them. With the industry still adapting to these demands, the company's expertise plays a critical role in shaping practical, achievable pathways to Net Zero and broader ESG compliance.

Internally, maintaining strong sustainability knowledge is also a challenge across the industry. While sustainability now features in engineering training, its application in live projects can be less straightforward.

As a growing business with a UK-wide team of over seven specialist engineers and technical experts, MEP Concepts invests heavily in its people. The company focuses on recruiting, training, and retaining talent that aligns with its values and commitment to sustainable delivery.

To further embed sustainability into its culture, MEP Concepts hosts quarterly Town Hall forums and internal meetings covering key topics such as sustainable design, energy strategy, and business-wide performance. These sessions keep sustainability at the forefront and help build knowledge across the team.

Impact:

Twelve months ago, MEP Concepts did not have a developed environmental or sustainability policy nor a clear understanding of its own sustainable performance. Through engagement with the Supply Chain Sustainability School (SCSS), the company has established its five core ESG sustainability commitments, covering:

- Office environment – Creating low energy demand buildings and minimising plastic use.
- Procurement – Establishing an internal sustainable procurement policy in accordance with ISO 20400.
- Education – Providing in-house CPD talks as well as external CPDs on sustainability matters.

Fact box



Company

MEP Concepts

No of employees

7

HQ

Unit 2, Lodge Farm Business Centre,
Castlethorpe, Milton Keynes MK19 7ES

Website

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Service

Mechanical, Electrical and Public Health (MEP) design, consultancy, and compliance services

About

Since 2012, MEP Concepts has earned a trusted reputation by providing practical advice and embracing innovation. The company designs mechanical and electrical solutions across the built environment, delivering responsible and sustainable results. Operating nationwide with a strong local presence, MEP Concepts supports projects from concept to completion, building long-term client trust through reliable service. Its work spans industrial, residential, healthcare, education, and commercial sectors covering systems for heat, light, power, ventilation, and water. The company has delivered high-quality facilities across the UK, from small industrial units to large parks and multi-residential blocks, with specialist experience in heritage, retail, and industrial developments.

- Transport – Converting the entire transport fleet to electric vehicles and lowering the overall carbon footprint, with transport representing approximately 36% of total carbon emissions.
- Carbon impact – Achieving Silver membership and working towards Gold membership with the SCSS. The company has evaluated its carbon footprint (Scope 1, 2, and 3), established its baseline position, and identified actions to reduce emissions year on year. MEP Concepts has also offset its remaining carbon via Gold Standard-approved measures, becoming a Carbon Neutral business for 2024–2025.

Value gained:

The engagement events and webinars provided by the SCSS have been extremely useful, serving as a great means of internal training for teams at MEP Concepts. The sustainability team has been able to disseminate this information to the wider company and clients, and where necessary, the senior team, to ensure sustainability is embedded into all operations.

The SCSS assessment process has been straightforward and highly effective. It helped establish the initial action plan for the business and allowed MEP Concepts to re-evaluate its current position. This enabled the company to define and achieve its five core ESG sustainability commitments.

Top-up e-learning modules have been excellent, helping create the policies required and assisting with tender bid submissions. Membership has been timely and valuable; it highlighted areas for improvement and confirmed where the company was excelling, enhancing the credibility of its sustainable performance.

As a result of joining the SCSS, MEP Concepts has enhanced its tender submissions, demonstrating what the company does in terms of sustainability and the advice it provides to clients. This has helped win more work, create a competitive edge on national contracts, and align with clients' ESG agendas. The company is now guiding clients on ESG goals and strategies to apply to their business and developments.

Participation in the SCSS has also enhanced MEP Concepts' reputation due to its commitment to continuous improvement. Internal sustainability focus has increased, boosting service delivery to clients. Involvement with the School has provided insight into clients' goals, aspirations, and targets.

Future proofing:

The resources available and the journey taken over the past months have enabled MEP Concepts to establish internal forums and ensure good internal education occurs for both recruitment programs and existing employees.

MEP Concepts believes it would be beneficial for the SCSS to encourage interaction with government representatives and provide insight into government targets and aspirations. Suggestions include engagement with the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, discussions on energy policy changes, steering group involvement—particularly with regard to the London Plan and Net Zero—and speedy clarification on MEES changes.