

Challenges:

Wolseley Group operates at the intersection between suppliers and customers, placing it in a unique position to influence both product sustainability and quality across the value chain. One of the key challenges is staying up to date with evolving sustainability trends, research and best practice, and ensuring this knowledge is effectively shared across a large and diverse organisation of 21 trading brands.

In addition, the breadth of Wolseley's customer base presents challenges in understanding and meeting a wide range of sustainability expectations, particularly within bids and tenders. Balancing these varied requirements while maintaining consistency in approach requires ongoing coordination, communication and engagement across the business.

Impact:

Engagement with the Supply Chain Sustainability School has supported Wolseley Group in several key areas. Membership has helped raise awareness of Wolseley's sustainability commitments both internally and externally, strengthening collaboration across the value chain.

Colleagues from across the organisation have upskilled through webinars and e-learning modules, benefiting from flexible learning that can be tailored to different roles and levels of knowledge. This is particularly valuable within a large organisation, enabling widespread engagement with sustainability topics.

The School also supports customer engagement. Many customers expect suppliers to hold recognised sustainability memberships, and the platform facilitates structured dialogue through assigned learning pathways and shared priorities. Additionally, tools such as carbon reporting support enable Wolseley to provide relevant data to customers more efficiently.

Ongoing engagement through events and collaboration with the School ensures the business remains aligned with industry developments.

Value gained:

Membership of the Supply Chain Sustainability School provides significant value to Wolseley Group. It supports upskilling across the organisation, enabling colleagues to build confidence and take shared responsibility for sustainability. The flexible nature of the platform allows learning to be tailored to individual roles, supporting effective knowledge dissemination across the business.

Fact box



Company

Wolseley Group

No of employees

5800

HQ

Warwick

Website

<https://corporate.wolseley.co.uk/>

Main contact

Elisabeth Axelsson
elisabeth.axelsson@wolseley.co.uk

Services

heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), plumbing, renewables, sanitaryware, mechanical engineering, infrastructure and utilities products, with large storage and fulfilment capabilities across the UK and Ireland.

About

Wolseley Group is a leading and diversified specialist merchant distributor of heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), plumbing, renewables, sanitaryware, mechanical engineering, infrastructure and utilities products. With extensive storage and fulfilment capabilities across the UK and Ireland, serving primarily professional contractors and tradespeople across a range of sectors including plumbing, heating, renewables, cooling and infrastructure.

The shared platform also enhances understanding of customer priorities, enabling Wolseley to align more closely with client expectations and produce more targeted, competitive tenders. Assigned pathways and learning plans provide deeper insight into customer requirements.

In addition, membership strengthens Wolseley's reputation, providing assurance to customers and partners of its commitment to sustainability. As participation in the School becomes an increasing requirement, it reinforces Wolseley's position as a trusted and responsible supplier.

Future proofing:

Wolseley Group plans to continue strengthening its collaboration with the Supply Chain Sustainability School, with a focus on increasing engagement across the business. Expanding access to learning opportunities will support colleagues in developing sustainability knowledge that adds value to their roles, their customers and the wider organisation.