

Challenges:

A & B Glass's biggest sustainability challenges have been reducing energy consumption and optimising product usage within its Sudbury manufacturing facility. To address these challenges, A & B Glass invested £4.1 million in advanced fabrication machinery, improving product quality while reducing material waste through more efficient UPVC profile utilisation. Any excess UPVC offcuts, returned frames, and glass are sent back to suppliers for recycling and incorporation into new products, supporting a circular approach to resource management.

A & B Glass has also significantly reduced energy consumption through increased manufacturing efficiencies and the installation of 1,177 solar panels on its production facility roof. The renewable energy generated helps power operations, with surplus electricity exported back to the grid. In addition, all facility lighting has been upgraded to LED technology.

These initiatives have contributed to reductions in A & B Glass's carbon footprint through lower energy, water, fuel, and material consumption. The Supply Chain Sustainability School has also helped A & B Glass upskill employees, strengthen customer engagement, and support sustainability learning across the business.

Impact:

Several of A & B Glass's customers requested that A & B Glass become a member of the Supply Chain Sustainability School as part of their tender requirements. Through this membership, A & B Glass has completed customer requested learning pathways and achieved badge awards in areas including Carbon Footprinting and Fairness, Inclusion and Respect (FIR).

A & B Glass is actively using the Supply Chain Sustainability School's resources and e-learning modules to increase knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues, particularly carbon footprint measurement, Life Cycle Assessments (LCA), and Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs). This has improved employee awareness, confidence, and engagement in supporting sustainability goals across the business. As a result, A & B Glass is currently researching and planning an LCA for its products and assessing the potential development of EPDs to identify opportunities to reduce Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.

The FIR modules have also provided valuable insight into diversity and inclusion, helping A & B Glass strengthen employee engagement and support future workforce development.

Fact box



Company

A&B Glass

No of employees

160

HQ

Sudbury, Suffolk

Website

www.abglass.co.uk

Main contact

Lucy Barber

Services

Manufacture and Installation of UPVC and Aluminium windows and Doors

About

Established in 1981, A & B Glass has built strong relationships with both national and regional housebuilders and offers a complete window and door supply and installation service to housing developers. A & B Glass is ideally placed to service the needs of major housebuilders. A & B Glass also has a dedicated social housing and public sector division called Asset Fineline, and a retail division with showrooms.

Value gained:

Membership with the Supply Chain Sustainability School provides A & B Glass with a valuable competitive advantage by strengthening its ability to win new business and deepen engagement with customers around their sustainability objectives. Through access to the Supply Chain Sustainability School's educational resources and tools, A & B Glass can upskill employees across the organisation, increasing awareness, understanding, and commitment to sustainability initiatives. This greater engagement supports continuous improvement projects focused on reducing its carbon footprint through more efficient energy, water, and product usage.

By building internal knowledge and capability, A & B Glass will be better equipped to establish meaningful sustainability projects, targets, and long-term goals. In addition, the progress and achievements from these initiatives can be communicated to clients and stakeholders through social media and other marketing channels, demonstrating A & B Glass's ongoing commitment to sustainability and reinforcing its reputation as a responsible and forward-thinking business.

Future proofing:

A & B Glass plans to offer a companywide rollout for employee engagement, CPD, and learning purposes. A & B Glass is currently using the Supply Chain Sustainability School's e-learning modules to support plans to reduce its carbon footprint and ensure compliance with client requirements.