Case Study: KDS Solutions Ltd

Challenges:

One of the biggest sustainability challenges faced by KDS Solutions Ltd as an LV switchgear manufacturer is reducing the environmental impact of materials and energy intensive manufacturing processes while maintaining product quality, safety, and reliability. Steel, copper, and other raw materials used in switchgear have significant embodied carbon, and sourcing these responsibly can be challenging due to supply chain constraints and customer specification. KDS Solutions Ltd has also faced challenges in reducing waste generated during assembly and packaging, while ensuring compliance with customer and industry standards. Another key issue is improving the energy efficiency of operations and reducing Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions across facilities. In addition, increasing customer demand for sustainable products requires KDS Solutions Ltd to work closely with suppliers to improve transparency, recyclability, and environmental performance throughout the product lifecycle. These challenges require continuous investment, innovation, and collaboration across the supply chain.

Impact:

Through engagement with the Supply Chain Sustainability School, KDS Solutions Ltd has significantly strengthened its understanding of sustainability and carbon reduction, while building the capability needed to address key environmental challenges within the business. The Supply Chain Sustainability School's training workshops, webinars, assessments, and e learning modules provided practical guidance and a clear framework for improvement, helping KDS Solutions Ltd achieve Bronze Status and benchmark sustainability performance.

As a direct result of this progress, KDS Solutions Ltd enlisted the help of a company called Planet Mark to support the achievement of Planet Mark Business Certification and to provide expert advice on developing and implementing a Net Zero strategy. The knowledge, tools, and resources provided by the Supply Chain Sustainability School have enabled KDS Solutions Ltd to establish measurable sustainability objectives, improve internal awareness and engagement, and create a structured roadmap for continuous improvement. This has increased confidence in managing environmental impact and accelerated the journey towards Net Zero.

Fact box

Company

KDS Solutions Ltd

No of employees

54

HQ

Hortonwood 66, Telford TF1 7GB

Website

www.kds-solutions.co.uk

Main contact

Lisa Guy

Services

Manufacture Electrical Low Voltage Switchgear

About

KDS Solutions specialize in providing Low Voltage Electrical Distribution solutions to commercial and industrial end users.

Value gained:

Being a member of the Supply Chain Sustainability School has delivered significant value to KDS Solutions Ltd by improving sustainability knowledge, strengthening credentials with customers, and enhancing the ability to meet customer expectations. The Supply Chain Sustainability School has helped KDS Solutions Ltd better understand the sustainability priorities of customers and the wider construction sector, enabling more effective responses to tender requirements and demonstrating a commitment to responsible business practices.

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Through the Supply Chain Sustainability School's resources and assessment framework, KDS Solutions Ltd achieved Silver Status, which provided a solid foundation for further improvement. This progress gave KDS Solutions Ltd the confidence to engage Planet Mark, leading to Planet Mark Business Certification and the development of a structured Net Zero roadmap. Membership has enhanced the organisation's reputation, increased its competitive advantage, and positioned KDS Solutions Ltd more strongly for future opportunities where sustainability performance is a key selection criterion and is more commonly requested as part of customer Pre-Qualification Questionnaires. Going forward, KDS Solutions Ltd sees continued value in accessing up to date guidance, best practice, and learning resources to support its ongoing sustainability journey and Net Zero ambitions.

Future proofing:

Future plans with the Supply Chain Sustainability School include expanding engagement across the business by encouraging more employees to complete relevant training and learning modules. This will help staff gain a greater understanding of the sustainability journey, Net Zero ambitions, and the role they can play in achieving organisational goals. KDS Solutions Ltd would welcome the continued development of practical resources, sector specific guidance, and case studies that help organisations translate learning into measurable action and long-term improvement.