Case Study: DT Hughes Building Contractors Ltd

Challenges:

DT Hughes works across a number of diverse environments, both natural and urban. Each individual site has its own sustainability risks, and each has to be assessed to ensure mitigation measures are in place to lower said risks. For example, working near watercourses requires a unique approach to managing waste arising from excavations to ensure silt does not enter the watercourse. The diverse range of environments that DT Hughes works in provides a unique challenge and opportunity to think differently about how to sustainably set up a temporary site to reduce impacts on biodiversity.

A further sustainability risk is DT Hughes' carbon footprint. Delivering its services requires the burning of fossil fuels through vehicles, plant and machinery. This creates the challenge of contributing to global warming, which has a global effect on the environment.

Impact:

Overall, throughout all the webinars attended, DT Hughes has always come away better informed and more enlightened. After gaining a greater understanding of Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, DT Hughes began measuring its Scope 1 and 2 emissions in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and committed to measuring Scope 3 emissions where possible, while working with suppliers to gather the necessary information.

DT Hughes is always eager to learn more and continues to use resources provided by the Supply Chain Sustainability School, integrating them into its environmental and sustainability awareness training scheme for all roles. The assessment tools have been particularly useful for benchmarking both the business and employees' sustainability and environmental knowledge, helping to target training towards key environmental aspects and impacts. The action plan has also helped identify priority areas for improvement, supporting continual environmental performance enhancements through regular reassessments. In addition, the e-learning modules provide valuable resources that encourage new ideas and innovations to support more sustainable ways of working.

Value gained:

At DT Hughes, the use of the Supply Chain Sustainability School has increased attractiveness to clients, as they have preferred contractors who are using the Supply Chain Sustainability School to identify sustainability gaps within their organisation's framework.

Not only this, but due to new implementations based on the knowledge gained from the Supply Chain Sustainability School, the risk to the environment and sustainability has reduced, as DT Hughes introduced new mitigations to existing aspects which lower the overall likelihood and severity of issues occurring.

Fact box

Company

DT Hughes Building Contractors Ltd

No of employees

95

HQ

DT Hughes, 2a Hanson Road, Brookfield Drive, Aintree, Liverpool, L9 7BP

Website

http://www.dthughes.co.uk

Main contact

Reiss Sudworth

Services

DT Hughes provides utility maintenance for essential infrastructure, domestic building, repair and upgrading the electrical networks.

About

DT Hughes is a family-run construction and infrastructure service company. Established in 1984, DT Hughes delivers groundworks, domestic building, electric network services, plant and resource hire, commercial garage services and construction services across the Northwest and North Wales.

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The use of the Supply Chain Sustainability School has improved outcomes in ensuring ISO 14001 certification is comprehensive. DT Hughes has passed all audits with no non-compliances since the introduction of the Supply Chain Sustainability School, which is a notable achievement.

Future proofing:

DT Hughes intends to integrate the Supply Chain Sustainability School more deeply into its workforce training and development process. DT Hughes will use the Supply Chain Sustainability School to help its workforce identify the environmental aspects of their role and how to become more sustainable within that role.

DT Hughes would like the Supply Chain Sustainability School to offer a greater variety of sustainability topics for roles such as accountancy, commercial functions and administration.