Case Study: Eco2Solar Ltd

Challenges:

Eco2Solar Ltd's recent internal ISO14001 audit highlighted a few sustainability challenges that needed to be addressed, prompting a complete update to waste management systems in both England and Scotland, where Eco2Solar Ltd has offices and warehouses. As part of this overhaul, dedicated recycling bins for wood, cardboard and metal were introduced, successfully reducing general waste uplifts.

The majority of waste occurs as a product of the supply chain. Eco2Solar Ltd has undertaken extensive work with suppliers to minimise packaging, significantly reducing cardboard waste. For any damaged panels, a specialist partner now collects and repurposes components, diverting unnecessary waste from landfill, reducing methane gas release and helping to recover up to 95% of materials, reducing the impact on air and water pollution.

Eco2Solar Ltd's sustainability processes extend to daily operations and office environments too, including selecting a water cooler provider, AquAid, which partners with The Africa Trust, using donations from the purchase of its products to provide water access to villages in Africa.

Impact:

The Supply Chain Sustainability School has been a very useful tool in bringing focus to Eco2Solar Ltd's sustainability efforts, identifying what is being done well and where there is room for improvement. As a business operating in the renewables industry, sustainability has always been a key focus, but it can often seem a big mountain to climb. The Supply Chain Sustainability School streamlines this and allows for a more considered approach.

By using the diagnostic assessments, Eco2Solar Ltd has been able to identify exactly where knowledge gaps exist and is now able to put processes in place to continue improving. Team members have been completing e learning modules, predominantly within the sustainability pathway, although digital has also been a key focus.

Eco2Solar Ltd is currently in the process of rolling out further pathways to a wider range of team members to take a more proactive approach to achieving sustainability goals.

Value gained:

The key value for Eco2Solar Ltd is being better placed to meet customer requirements. Eco2Solar Ltd is currently heavily focused on supporting new build developers working towards the new targets set out by the Future Homes Standard. These new regulations are a significant step forward for overall sustainability, and membership of the Supply Chain Sustainability School is helping Eco2Solar Ltd understand the sustainability drivers of customers from another perspective.

Fact box

Company

Eco2Solar Ltd

No of employees

120

HQ

Summerfield House, Arthur Drive, Hoo Farm Industrial Estate, Kidderminster, DY11 7SL

Website

www.eco2solar.co.uk

Main contact

Charlie Waters

Services

Solar PV installation to new build and commercial properties

About

Established in 2007 and now part of the E.ON group, Eco2Solar Ltd is the UK's leading solar PV provider for new builds, installing on 1,500 plots per month. As a two time HBF Subcontractor of the Year and member of the Future Homes Hub implementation group, Eco2Solar Ltd is passionate about leveraging its scale and expertise in PV, battery storage and EV charging.

Combined with the work already being undertaken for the Future Homes Standard, this enables Eco2Solar Ltd to better support customers and continue striving to be the “go to” Solar PV partner.

Future proofing:

The Supply Chain Sustainability School is an excellent resource and one that Eco2Solar Ltd hopes to enrol many more team members into, further exploring the topics on offer and using these to upskill.

One way to improve could be by introducing suggested learning plans offered at different levels for different members of the team, for example junior pathways for newer members of staff beginning their learning journey and upskilling, followed by slightly more senior suggested learning plans. This could include a set of three or four webinars or modules that an employee can be assigned to complete.