

Challenges:

The biggest challenge Aden Contracting has faced around sustainability is carbon management and how the company will achieve net-zero in its own operations by 2030. The problem is that the built environment is a major contributing factor to carbon emissions. Aden Contracting understands the damaging impact the sector they work in has on the environment. So, the company's challenge is how it will achieve its net-zero carbon goal and what methods it will adopt to help them achieve it.

As a company Aden Contracting has been trialling the use of HVO fuels in its plant machinery. For every litre of diesel, Aden Contracting are changing to Green D+ HVO, and they will be saving around 2.82KG of CO₂e, which will significantly help them toward their net-zero goal. Even with the significant benefits of alternative fuels, there have still been challenges such as sustainability credentials and price increases.

Aden Contracting's primary target is to review their internal purchases and work towards the ambition to make the company's fleet ultra-low carbon. This comes with its challenges, including the cost of electric vehicles compared to diesel currently on the market and inadequate charging infrastructure. This is something the company aims to overcome and achieve by 2030.

Impact:

Better understanding of

HVO: Overall, carbon management and reduction have been an initial challenge for Aden Contracting. A crucial part of Aden Contracting's carbon management plan has been the use of alternative fuels because of the significant benefits compared to conventional diesel. At the same time, the company is looking into the wider long-term strategy to transition to other alternative low carbon power sources depending on infrastructure and market availability. The challenge that arose from this is the sustainable impact of HVO and the price increase since the UK government's changes to rules on re-bated fuels. The positives that the School has facilitated is that the company now has a better understanding of HVO and the sustainability impacts behind it.



Fact box



Company

Aden Contracting Limited

No of employees

11

HQ

Cambridge Road, Bedford

Website

<https://www.adencontracting.co.uk/>

Main contact

Abby Garner –
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Services

Groundworks and civil engineering service

About

Aden Contracting Ltd was founded in 2007 by directors Adam Webster & Denis Curtis. As a comprehensive Bedfordshire based groundwork & civil engineering contractors, they take pride on the fact they have extensive experience, offering a full range of civil engineering and groundwork's services.

Setting strategies: Using the Schools' resources, Aden Contracting has been able to identify best practice and how to make checks to ensure that the company are purchasing HVO from a sustainable

source, and that it meets the required standards. Although initially Aden Contracting may not be able to tackle its challenges, such as charging infrastructure, the School has enabled them to map out strategies and help them make small steps toward achieving long-term goals.

Value gained:

Setting better standards: Aden Contracting recognises the potential to support its main contractors' goals and the legislative and ethical imperatives to address sustainability. Being part of the Supply Chain Sustainability School creates enhanced assurance in the company's quality, procurement, social and environmental management standards and capabilities. The value that Aden Contracting puts on its membership is a better understanding of the sustainability drivers of its clients. It enables Aden Contracting to create its path for sustainability.

Competitive advantage: It provides the company with the resources to help its clients achieve their ambitions along with helping Aden Contracting to create an increased competitive advantage by meeting social, corporate and environmental targets. A great example of Aden Contracting's commitment to corporate responsibility is that the company recently took on three new groundworker apprentices by collaborating with MK College.

Flexible training: As a company, Aden Contracting always find the workshops and webinars very useful, and they always give the company something to take away and work on. In particular, the Lunch 'n' Learns have been perfect for Aden Contracting. They are easy to fit into a busy day, and the company have been able to pick topics that they are either currently working towards or something that will become the main focus for them.

Better goal-setting: Company assessments are great as they allow Aden Contracting to create an action plan of areas the company needs to focus on and what Aden Contracting can do to improve. Aden Contracting's action plan has enabled the company to map out strategies and small steps toward achieving long-term goals. It has helped Aden Contracting work out what they want to achieve and when and how they will go about achieving them. This means Aden Contracting have been able to focus their energy on exactly what they need to do.

Internal training: Aden Contracting finds all the e-learning modules they have completed useful. They have been a key element in helping the company work out which areas to prioritise when looking at their approach to sustainability. They have also improved the staff's knowledge and understanding of the three pillars of sustainability, which has had a substantial positive impact on the company in regard to having everyone's support to meet Aden Contracting's goals and targets.

Future proofing:

In regards to Aden Contracting's future plan with the School they will continue to take the necessary steps to expand their approach to sustainability and depend on School as needed for as-yet-unknown needs and opportunities. As well as continuing the use of the School's Carbon Calculator as best practice.