

Challenges:

The sign-making industry is facing significant sustainability challenges related to materials used in production. Traditional materials such as vinyl, acrylic, and PVC are non-biodegradable and heavily dependent on fossil fuels. Eco Signs acknowledges the need for more sustainable practices and is actively seeking eco-friendly, durable, and cost-effective alternatives, which can still be difficult to source. Energy-efficient equipment and renewable energy sources are being considered to achieve this goal.

Ethical sourcing practices for raw materials, such as responsibly sourced non-toxic inks and adhesives, are seen as critical by Eco Signs to maintain sustainability standards throughout the supply chain. Waste management is also a significant challenge as sign-making generates excess materials, offcuts, and the return of old signage for disposal. Recycling and reuse methods are considered essential to reduce waste.

Eco Signs recognizes the importance of lowering energy consumption during production, such as printing and fabrication, to minimize carbon emissions. Addressing these challenges requires an integrated approach that includes eco-conscious design, responsible sourcing, energy efficiency initiatives, and waste reduction strategies.

Impact:

At Eco Signs, employees play a vital role in promoting sustainable practices. To develop a culture of sustainability, it is crucial to equip staff with the necessary knowledge and education. The School has played an essential role in achieving this objective by providing staff with access to a library of training materials that cater to all competency levels. By providing the team with this valuable resource, they can acquire the skills and knowledge needed to address the critical sustainability challenges that the business faces. The training materials offered by the Supply Chain Sustainability School are comprehensive and cover a wide range of sustainability topics. This knowledge helps to reduce the environmental impact of operations. At Eco Signs, the company is committed to sustainability, and they believe that investing in their employees' education and development is a crucial step towards achieving their sustainability goals.

Engagement events:

The webinars that staff have attended have proved to be insightful and thought-provoking, offering valuable guidance and resources that the company is able to put into practice in its day-to-day operations.

Resources:

Fact box



Company

Eco Signs Swindon Limited

No of employees

50

HQ

Swindon

Website

Ecosigns.co.uk

Main contact

Phil Thompson

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Services

Eco Signs is a leading UK specialist in commercial signage including internal and external sign systems, internal displays, and digital print services.

About

Eco Signs specialises in commercial signage, offering complete design capabilities, site surveys, production, installation, and project management for businesses across the UK. The product range includes internal and external signage, e.g. wall, free-standing, illuminated and non-illuminated signs. They also specialise in large format printing, utilising cutting-edge LED print technology.

Assessments – Eco Signs Ltd had a very positive experience with the School assessments. These assessments were very helpful in evaluating different aspects of sustainability, such as environmental impact, social responsibility, and ethical sourcing. They provided Eco Signs Ltd with a comprehensive understanding of their sustainability efforts and highlighted areas where they could improve.

Action plan – Eco Signs has found the action plan to be highly useful. It has helped to guide the company in the implementation of strategies that will improve sustainability practices, reduce environmental impact, and improve efficiency.

E-learning modules - Eco Signs has found the e-learning modules to be incredibly valuable, providing accessible and comprehensive training and helping the company to achieve its sustainability goals. By completing these modules, Eco Signs can demonstrate its commitment to a sustainable future, which helps to build trust with customers who value socially responsible businesses.

Value gained:

Eco Signs Ltd has improved its sustainability approach by partnering with School. The partnership has helped the company access reliable and well-researched information that has enabled its workforce to better understand sustainability and its increasing importance to customers. By continuing to collaborate with the school, Eco Signs will stay abreast of emerging sustainability trends and use them to unlock new business opportunities, reduce costs, and mitigate operational risks. By taking proactive measures towards sustainability, learned through the partnership with the School, Eco Signs has not only enhanced its competitiveness and reputation as an environmentally conscious company but also gained new business. Eco Signs' partnership with the Supply Chain Sustainability School is a testament to its ongoing commitment to sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

Future proofing:

The School has helped to improve Eco Signs Ltd's sustainability performance by providing ways to reduce waste, lower their carbon footprint, and improve the social and ethical impact of their supply chain.