

Challenges:

Reducing emissions presents a significant challenge not only for Knauf UK & Ireland but for the entire industry. This goal is a key focus for the Knauf Group, aiming to reduce CO2 emissions by 50% by 2032 (from a 2021 baseline) and achieve net zero emissions by 2045. Engaging all colleagues in this effort is critical to achieving these ambitious targets.

The demand from their supply chain for a sustainable service offering, encompassing products, packaging, and logistics, underscores the importance of a holistic approach. Knauf UK & Ireland is committed to collaborating closely with its supply chain to minimize its impact across all operational areas, ensuring a sustainable future for all stakeholders involved.

Impact:

Through accessing the resources available from the School, colleagues across Knauf UK & Ireland at all levels can access learning tailored to their respective functions, interests, and skill levels. This accessibility ensures that there is valuable content for everyone, fostering increased confidence in their roles as they enhance their competencies—an area of significant focus for Knauf.

Engagement events:

They have attended numerous webinars and virtual conferences at Knauf UK & Ireland, featuring engaging speakers who not only impart knowledge but also inspire innovative ideas that can be applied across industries. For instance, at one virtual conference, they learned how a retailer was using the social enterprise 'Recipro' to donate unsold goods, aligning with Knauf's strategy to reduce waste to landfill and adhere to the waste hierarchy. This prompted their engagement with Recipro, leading to a collaboration where they donate products for community projects or families on low income, diverting them from the waste stream.

Resources:

Assessments – It was important for Knauf UK & Ireland to assess their status to identify developmental gaps, enabling them to promptly implement plans for improvement. This straightforward process allowed them to efficiently address and work on identified areas of development.

Action Plan – Their action plan has successfully involved colleagues from different areas of the business by highlighting courses that were previously overlooked, which needed completion by colleagues not yet registered with the School. The positive engagement from these colleagues reflects their enthusiasm for participation and enjoyment in learning about the topics.

Fact box



Company

Knauf UK & Ireland

No of employees

464

HQ

Sittingbourne, Kent

Website

www.knauf.co.uk

Main contact

Becky Newell

sustainabilityUKI@knauf.com

Services

Plasterboard systems manufacturer

About

We are a manufacturer of plasterboard systems (including Acoustic Ceiling systems, Dry Screed Flooring, Jointing Compounds, fixings & accessories, SFS & Aquapanel), working with sub and main contractors, distributors, merchants, architects and specifiers across UK & Ireland.

E-learning modules – The e-learning modules are designed to accommodate their schedules, covering a wide range of topics in manageable lengths suitable for colleagues at all competency levels.

Value gained:

The School assists Knauf UK & Ireland in aligning with their customers' sustainability priorities and understanding industry-wide initiatives. It provides a platform to implement shared best practices and collaborative actions within their own business.

Enhancing competence among colleagues is crucial not only for industry and company objectives but also to empower them with confidence in their respective areas of expertise.

Knauf UK & Ireland mitigates risks by staying informed about evolving regulations through the School's regularly updated and relevant content, which focuses on client priorities.

Their commitment to learning and active participation with the School has bolstered their reputation for prioritizing sustainability initiatives.

Future proofing:

Knauf UK & Ireland plans to increase their engagement with the School, sharing their success stories to inspire others and promote action. They aim to further interact with customers to support their sustainability journeys and align on key topics of importance. Through collaborative efforts and partnerships, Knauf believes they can collectively accelerate progress towards their sustainability goals.