



Programme Details

Envirowise, supported locally by Invest Northern Ireland, offers businesses free, independent, confidential advice and support on practical ways to increase profits, minimise waste and reduce environmental impact.

On average, a business working with Envirowise can save £1,000 per employee per year, converting an additional one per cent of turnover directly to profit.

The Company

Powershield Doors Ltd, established in 1989, is a specialist engineering company based in Lisburn. The company design, manufacture and install a complete range of high quality flush steel doors and a complimentary range of steel framed glazing systems. The company operates from a modern purpose built factory with over 50,000 square feet of production and office space and currently employs 90 staff. Powershield Doors Ltd has worked on many high profile contracts both directly and indirectly with some of the 'Fortune 500' companies with orders completed throughout Ireland, Great Britain, Western Europe, Middle East, Africa, Hong Kong, Singapore and the West Indies.

The Challenge

Powershield Doors Ltd has substantial packaging and associated annual waste costs that they wish to reduce, not only to save money but also to be more resource efficient. The Envirowise Advisor calculated a benchmark score for the company during the site visit to allow comparison between the participating companies. As with the other participants Powershield Doors' score indicated that they have some scope for improvement including a reduction in the amount of waste produced and associated costs.

Envirowise Intervention

Powershield Doors Ltd took part in the Envirowise KREEC project; a resource efficiency club set up at Invest Northern Ireland's Knockmore Hill Industrial Estate. The company benefited from a Fast Track site visit by an Envirowise Advisor who assessed the company's operations. The Advisor provided guidance on how the company could improve its overall performance and thereby become more environmentally efficient, in turn helping Powershield Doors to make financial savings. The Northern Ireland waste strategy, policy and legislative framework were taken into account in the review process.

The Solution

Powershield Doors Ltd. could make considerable financial savings by implementing waste monitoring and targeting systems. One of the main opportunities identified for potential resource efficiency within the company relates to the packaging of materials for distribution to sites. Replacing existing stillages with re-usable alternatives (stackable vertically rather than horizontally as existing) means that the company could become more efficient in its packaging use. It was also noted that the night time load for energy consumption at the site was unusually high, with the possibility that some items of equipment, such as compressors, are left on overnight. Savings



could be up to 50% of night time load. The potential for Powershield Doors Ltd to utilise the waste of neighbouring Smiley Monroe was also considered. Off-cut rubber from Smilie Monroe is of a durability and shore hardness likely to be compatible with the packaging needs of Powershield Doors. This collaboration with a neighbouring company to re-use waste will be of environmental and financial benefit to both the companies.

The Benefits

By implementing the various actions recommended by Envirowise, Powershield Doors Ltd will improve resource efficiency and make financial savings in the process. The company was advised that bespoke stillages could be designed to allow doors to be packed better for transit thus reducing haulage footprint and costs. Waste disposal cost savings could also be made by using returnable packaging systems for the steel pallets used by the company.

Envirowise also highlighted that measuring utility use boosts manufacturing profits. By measuring and controlling compressed air, lighting and energy the company can make a saving of 0.15% of its annual turnover.

The actions outlined above only provide a summary of the overall recommendations advised to the company by Envirowise. If the company implements all of the recommendations proposed by Envirowise then Powershield Doors Ltd. could make financial savings of up to £98,871 per annum.

“We found the KREEC Envirowise programme informative and practical. The Fast Track review identified areas within the business which needed addressing along with suggestions on how to implement the suggestions and the respective cost savings. There will be additional benefits due to the estate working together to save money on waste removal etc. The suggestions raised were practical, realistic ideas which can be easily implemented”.

Suzanne Waddell, Business Improvement Manager