

CASE STUDY



Client : Lift & Engineering Services Limited

Project: Environmental Management Training [ISO 14001]

Theme: Going Green with Sandwell Homes

Location: Cradley Heath, West Midlands

Lift & Engineering Services Ltd are one of the leading experts in the field of lift engineering with over 25 years experience. They offer a complete service from design, manufacture, installation and maintenance. The company recognised the importance of achieving high standards in environmental performance and required assistance with the PQQ process for public sector engagement.



Achieving ISO 14001

Background

Lift & Engineering Services Ltd established an excellent reputation in customer service and manufacture with all aspects of lift design, technology and installation. The company recognised, however, the need to improve their overall environmental standards in order to successfully engage with the public sector. The company were keen to work with Sandwell Homes and joined in the process of "Going Green" - a staged approach for achieving the ISO 14001 Environmental Standard.

Through WMCCE's subsidised programme of training support, the company enrolled on a supply chain workshop run by consultants Bates Wood and ESP. The consultants designed a management system called SMEI4K which takes companies through the process of achieving the ISO 14001 standard. The course is especially designed for small companies enabling the total involvement of the management team and work force which is of prime importance in achieving the standard. The training also helped the company understand the PQQ process of achieving supply chain status to the public sector as well as the relevance of improving environmental standards..

'Going Green'

Sandwell Homes introduced this programme to encourage small companies, wishing to supply the council, to recognise the environmental impact of their manufacturing processes and involve the SME in seeking ways of reducing the negative consequences for the environment. Following the achievement of Stage 1 of BS8555 companies are encouraged to complete the process by achieving ISO 14001.

WMCCE's support

Subsidised support through WMCCE and the appointment of consultant partners Bates Wood and ESP helped Lift & Engineering Ltd, together with other SME's, to achieve the accolade in environmental performance and help in the process of public sector engagement.

Benefits to Lift & Engineering

The company has now achieved accreditation with the formal award of ISO 14001 and have the confidence and credentials of applying for new opportunities through the PQQ process. The company now want to continue to improve their performance by applying for environmental management accreditation.

"ISO 14001 had long been a goal of ours but we had not found a cost and time efficient way of implementing a full EMS. SMEI4K's staged approach allowed us to do this without having a detrimental impact upon our business practises.

SMEI4K also identified what environmental legislation applied to us so that we could ensure we were legally compliant. This is something which we would not have been able to do without this innovative and practical approach.

We were really pleased how the whole process was put together to suit us."

Tony Blakemore, Lift & Engineering

"We have been working with Sandwell Homes for a number of years. As part of Sandwell Homes supply chain environmental engagement, we devised a programme called "Going Green" for SME suppliers to understand their environmental risks and how to manage them. Following Going Green, we identified that SME's needed an efficient and cost effective way to implement an environmental management system to ISO14001 - because of this we devised SMEI4k. Lift and Engineering used this unique methodology to achieve 14001. We are delighted to wish both continued environmental success."

Andrew Fletcher, ESP Limited (in partnership with Bates Wood)

"Going Green and subsequently SMEI4k have allowed us to raise the environmental credentials of our supply chain. We would like to thank Bates Wood Limited and ESP for working with us to introduce environmental sustainability into our procurement and for all the suppliers who have taken part. We also thank WMCCE for being instrumental in this unique initiative."

Tony Thompson, Sandwell Homes