

RS Clare is lubricating
progress towards a
greener future.



Study 08

RS Clare



After 260 years in business, RS Clare has learnt something new about sustainability.

RS Clare & Co is a Liverpool institution. Founded by Richard S. Clare in 1748, it is the longest established industrial lubricants manufacturer in the country.



Today, the company still manufactures grease. It has also diversified into non-slip surfaces for bridges, ramps and decks, and makes road marking materials.

Like many so companies with a long history to look back on, R.S. Clare makes a point of looking forward. Established at the beginning of the original Industrial Revolution, it is now preparing for the next; the transformation to a low carbon economy. It called in Groundwork to help.

Groundwork seminars trained the company's 55 Liverpool employees to 'think green'. As so many businesses find out, energy efficiency is cost efficiency.

An investigation into high water consumption led to the discovery of a faulty solenoid – a switch device that optimises efficiency in many applications. A new, modern solenoid replacement has dramatically reduced water usage - by 55%. In the same year, energy consumption was reduced to 74%. The Liverpool site used to fill 3-4 waste skips per month. Cardboard recycling has reduced this to 2 skips every 2 months. One reward for RS Clare is that £15,000 per annum has been saved on utility costs alone.

Good news for us all is that RS Clare's energy efficiency reduced its calculated carbon footprint from 900 tonnes in

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2006 to 730 tonnes in 2007. All the lowered consumption figures listed here were achieved with no drop in production output.

With many exacting multinationals as customers, RS Clare is no stranger to Quality Assurance. Groundwork helped RS Clare affirm its standing, by implementing an Environmental Management System that resulted in ISO 14001 accreditation.

Groundwork Merseyside Environmental Awards acknowledge responsible businesses that are helping Merseyside move towards a greener economy. In 2008, RS Clare was runner up for the Environmental Management Award, and won the Environmental Business Of The Year.

RS Clare is a company with great past, a healthy present, and a genuine desire to ensure a sustainable future for everyone.



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