

GREEN DISTRIBUTION

We catch up with our Operations Director, Shaun Imrie who fills us in on our existing green distribution strategy and future plans for shrinking our carbon footprint on our journey to a greener future.



The Green Effect.

The environment is defined as the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal or plant lives or operates. As a business we find ourselves operating in many different types of micro-environments, however it all comes back to the big one in which we are all indebted to – Planet Earth - and striving to keep our planet healthy for future generations.

With more and more businesses demanding a greener distribution path, Shawston have been making greener choices across our supply chain for some time now.

Greener, faster, better.

Greener, faster, better. That's how we describe ourselves. We have invested heavily in making our business sustainable for all, because a smooth-running business makes for a happier team, a happier customer and creates less wasted resource.

Take our nationwide presence for example. We distribute goods from our closest branch to the customer site. This means less miles are travelled on each journey, and therefore less carbon emissions.



Our vehicle fleet is Euro 6.2 compliant. At Shawston we travel in excess of 1 million miles a year, delivering goods across our nationwide network, so it makes complete sense to utilise vehicles that emit lower emissions.

Our warehouse teams, who are also co-owners, are experienced at packing the lorries to ensure every space is maximised. We also optimise all loads that leave each branch, meaning we supply a full product mix across both fire and mechanical services markets on each vehicle.

This efficiency is seen throughout the supply chain from storage, order processing, packaging and the final delivery. We strive for increased efficiency within every area of the business and continually look for ways to reduce the impact our business has on the planet.

KEEPING THE ART OF GREEN DISTRIBUTION SIMPLE.

GREENER TECHNOLOGY

All our vehicles are fitted with telematic software which allows us to successfully manage each vehicle as a separate entity.

- ▶ Active GPS planning means we can prepare each route to maximise fuel efficiency and therefore minimise emissions. We are also able to keep a check on the vehicle's performance to reduce idling times and engine run times.

We are actively searching for new and cleaner ways of transporting goods. We are currently exploring the use of Hybrid 3.4T, 4T vehicles, which we hope to have on the road for local deliveries within the next 2 years. And we continue to monitor developments in both vehicles technology and fuel types as we plan for a carbon neutral future.

GREENER REGULATIONS

Rising standards within the construction industry means more and more suppliers are being asked to comply with CLOCS to help take ownership of road safety across the supply chain. Our commitment to achieving FORS Silver status allows us to create a health and safety benchmark not only for ourselves, but also the construction industry as a whole.

And what's more our FORS Silver status means we instantly comply with CLOCS as the two go hand-in-hand. We are proud to continue to offer safer, smarter, greener nationwide deliveries.



A GREENER FUTURE

We've never shied away from talking about our sustainable business model. It's been at the very heart of our company's culture since the management buy out back in 2001.

We believe our sustainable business practices across our entire business continue to keep Shawston at the forefront of our customers minds. From making greener choices across the whole supply chain and increasing the day-to-day efficiencies within our branches, to reducing / reusing / recycling, and harvesting sustainable goods such as our FSC wood blocks.

As an employee-owned business, our team of 130 co-owners are fully in control of how we want our company to run. The future is ours to plan and we see a brighter, greener future through our green distribution strategy.



01 Euro 6.2 compliant fleet, we run the most up to date energy efficient vehicles.

02 Load optimisation across all vehicles, multiple products on each order and delivery.

03 Telematic software across our fleet lowering carbon emissions, idling times and improving vehicle efficiencies.

04 FORS Silver status means we instantly comply with CLOCS as the two go hand-in-hand.

05 Sustainable goods harvesting such as our FSC wood blocks.