



SUPPLY CHAIN Update

2ND EDITION



Photograph shows Farming Futures Sustainability Hub, Llysfasi College, Ruthin

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SUPPLY CHAIN UPDATE

Welcome & Hot Topic

As subcontractors and suppliers, we appreciate the critical role you play to the success of Read. The aim of this newsletter is to share information on hot topics within the industry, tell you about any changes or developments at Read, give you the opportunity to share your thoughts or spread good news stories from across our sites. Thank you for your continued support.



Start of Works Celebration at Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes, Bangor

HOT TOPIC: DUST, MASKS AND FACE FIT TESTING

We wrote about face-fit testing and the dangers of silica dust in our previous Supply Chain Update, yet the issue remains a key topic following a recent HSE inspection. Read, our subcontractors and their H&S consultants were challenged on face-fit training and records. Project teams are once again reminding everyone of our policy regarding silica dust:

- All works should be assessed whether dust management is required.
- All works which generate dust must have suitable control measures in place, such as dust suppression and extraction, and the agreed controls implemented.
- An appropriate exclusion zone should be set up around the dusty work.
- Any person wearing a mask on site, whether involved in dusty work or not, must have a mask with minimum P3 filters (including a face fit test certificate from the last 2 years) or a powered air fed respirator with TH2 filter.

Copies of face-fit test certificates should be provided to each Site Manager when your staff arrive for their inductions.

Please ensure you have read and understood HSE guidance as per links below:

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/healthrisks/hazardous-substances/construction-dust.htm>



Further Support

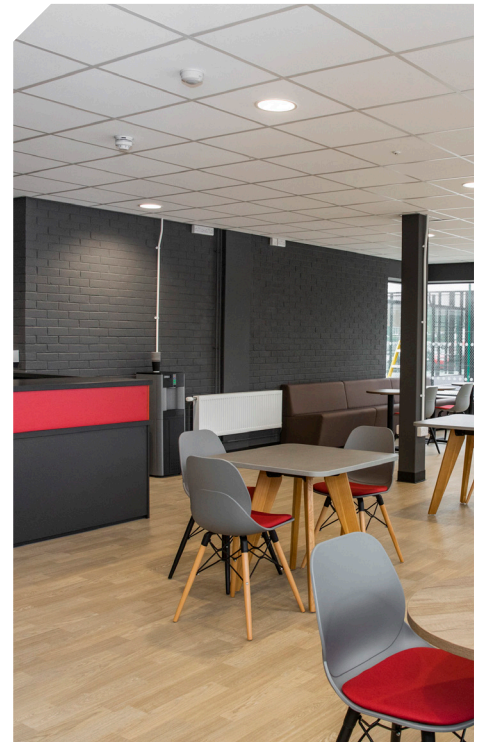
SUBCONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE KPIS

To maintain the high standards at Read, we have recently introduced Subcontractor Performance Rating KPI's. These KPI's will form a powerful tool to help us manage risk, drive continuous improvement, whilst building and fostering strong, reliable supply chain partners.

Scores will be compiled by the project delivery team at the end of each project, with KPI's covering a range of areas such as H&S, quality of workmanship, reliability, behaviours, cost control and the resolution of defects.

Moving forward, these scores will form part of our subcontractor approval process. We may invite subcontractors of concern to meetings to discuss areas for improvement, where clear action plans with specific steps can be agreed, whilst ensuring a collaborative approach to performance improvement.

We have established a strong relationship with our supply chain over many years and we aim to continue building on this positive relationship and supporting each other in an industry where we have seen so many changes and challenges over the years. We welcome any ideas and recommendations you may have to help us improve the way we run our projects.



Recently completed Wrexham Tennis Centre

CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION

HVO accounted for 41% of the fuel purchased for our machinery last year. Using the latest available greenhouse gas conversion factors available at gov.uk, this switch to alternative fuel will have potentially saved over 36 tonnes of CO₂. This doesn't account for several sites where our subcontractors have made the same switch to HVO.

In light of the growing amount of fuel on our construction sites, our teams recently completed four sessions of emergency spill response training. We have already invested in additional resources in readiness for any future emergencies and have an increased awareness of key risk points on our sites.

As of February 2025, 66% of the vehicle fleet is electric – this figure is due to rise to 80% by the end of March. A recent study of our site in Flint showed that we've saved over 66,000 miles of car travel by using green transport initiatives such as EVs, car-pooling and public transport.

We're being asked to demonstrate savings in carbon footprint during our projects more frequently, particularly to public sector clients and public funded projects that need to hit governments' target of net zero by 2050. The footprint can generally be divided into three strands:

- Embodied in materials i.e. carbon footprint in manufacturing materials.
- Embodied in operations i.e. carbon footprint from fuel use, travel, energy use.
- Operational i.e. carbon footprint of the final building when it's used by the client.

Now is the time to start planning how you can reduce your carbon footprint. As well as achieving the main environmental goal, we will consider your initiative when selecting contractors.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

We would like to thank everyone who support both our Food Bank Collection and Toy Donation appeal this Christmas. 113kg's of food was donated to food banks across our local area and over £500 worth of toys donated to local children in need.



ATTRACTING NEW TALENT

We all know how difficult it is to find new talent and individuals keen to get into the Construction industry. As a business, Read regularly attend career fairs across the local region – so if you're recruiting for any roles, particularly apprentices/trainees, we would be happy to promote your vacancies on our stand. Just forward either a company leaflet or copy of your job advert to careers@readconstruction.co.uk and we will advertise your role at any upcoming events.



TRAINING AND UPSKILLING

Launched in 2012, the Supply Chain Sustainability School is an award-winning FREE virtual learning platform around sustainability, with the aim to upskill those working within, or aspiring to work within, the built environment sector.

Their learning covers the three core pillars of Sustainability – Environmental, Social and Economic – looking at key issues ranging from carbon management through to combatting modern slavery. Keep on top of the latest innovations in the construction industry by registering for free via the link below.

<https://www.supplychainschool.co.uk/>

