



 **smart**
architectural aluminium



Responsible Sourcing Report 2020



Sustainability at Smart

About Smart Architectural Aluminium

Over the past forty years, Smart has grown to become the UK's leading supplier of aluminium systems and bespoke aluminium extrusions, building a reputation for both the quality of its products and its product innovation, design and technical expertise. Our products and systems are proven in a wide range of new-build and refurbishment projects throughout the UK, spanning the complete range of commercial, public sector and residential applications.

Based in Yatton, North Somerset, our purpose-built premises house state-of-the-art extrusion, finishing, manufacturing, warehousing and distribution facilities. Our own fleet of lorries makes daily deliveries to a network of fabricators and installers across the UK. Employing around 600 people, we have an annual turnover in excess of £120 million.

Our Approach

We are fully committed to working towards a greener, more sustainable environment. From the procurement of raw materials to the delivery of finished goods we ensure every aspect of our activities is conducted in accordance with UK and EU legislation and environmental practices.

We aim to promote an understanding of environmental issues among our staff, customers, suppliers, and stakeholders, in relation to our business. Our common goal is to ensure we continually improve the environmental impact of all our activities.

Our pursuit in minimising our environmental impacts is integral to the success of our Environmental Management System. Smart has been an accredited ISO 14001 company since 2011, and endeavours to show continual improvements and investments in product efficiency, waste capture, recycling, and sustainable power generation.

Responsible Sourcing & Supply Chain Management

How and from whom a company purchases materials can impact the broader environment in many ways.

We recognise that to ensure product sustainability we must ensure 100% material traceability and ensure our suppliers uphold high environmental, social, and quality based standards. In 2016 we made the decision to pursue certification to BES 6001 to ensure and prove our products have been responsibly sourced, particularly bauxite.

We require much more than affordability from our suppliers; standardised management systems must be in place to identify and reduce their quality, environmental and health and safety risks. As a direct result of this, a key supplier reports that their production sits below the industry average for energy consumption per kilogram of aluminium produced at 13.9kWh per kg; with 70% of their total production related energy consumption coming from renewable sources.

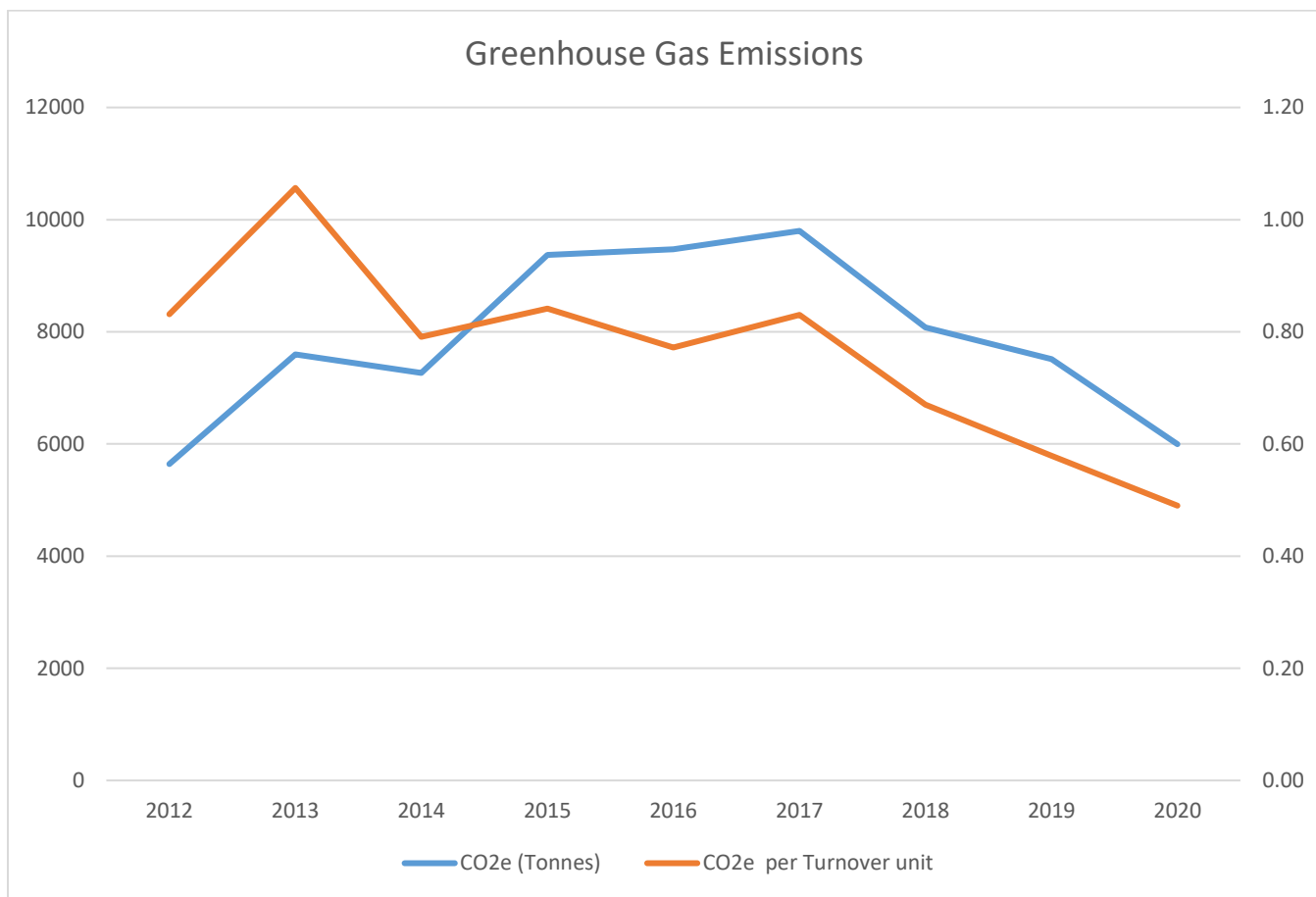
We are pleased to report in 2020, despite complications in raw material procurement due to COVID-19, around 90% of our constituent materials were sourced from suppliers that hold certification to ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14,001:2015 and OHSAS 18,001:2007 / ISO 45,001:2018.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Aluminium extrusion is characteristically an energy intensive operation. At Smart we recognise this and aim to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in line with national commitments to the Paris Agreement and the Climate Change Act.

We have collected and collated greenhouse gas emission data annually since 2012. Our GHG emissions are produced from the combustion of natural gas and diesel on our site, from our transport activities (including our delivery fleet, company vehicles and employee travel) and the electricity we purchase from the national grid.

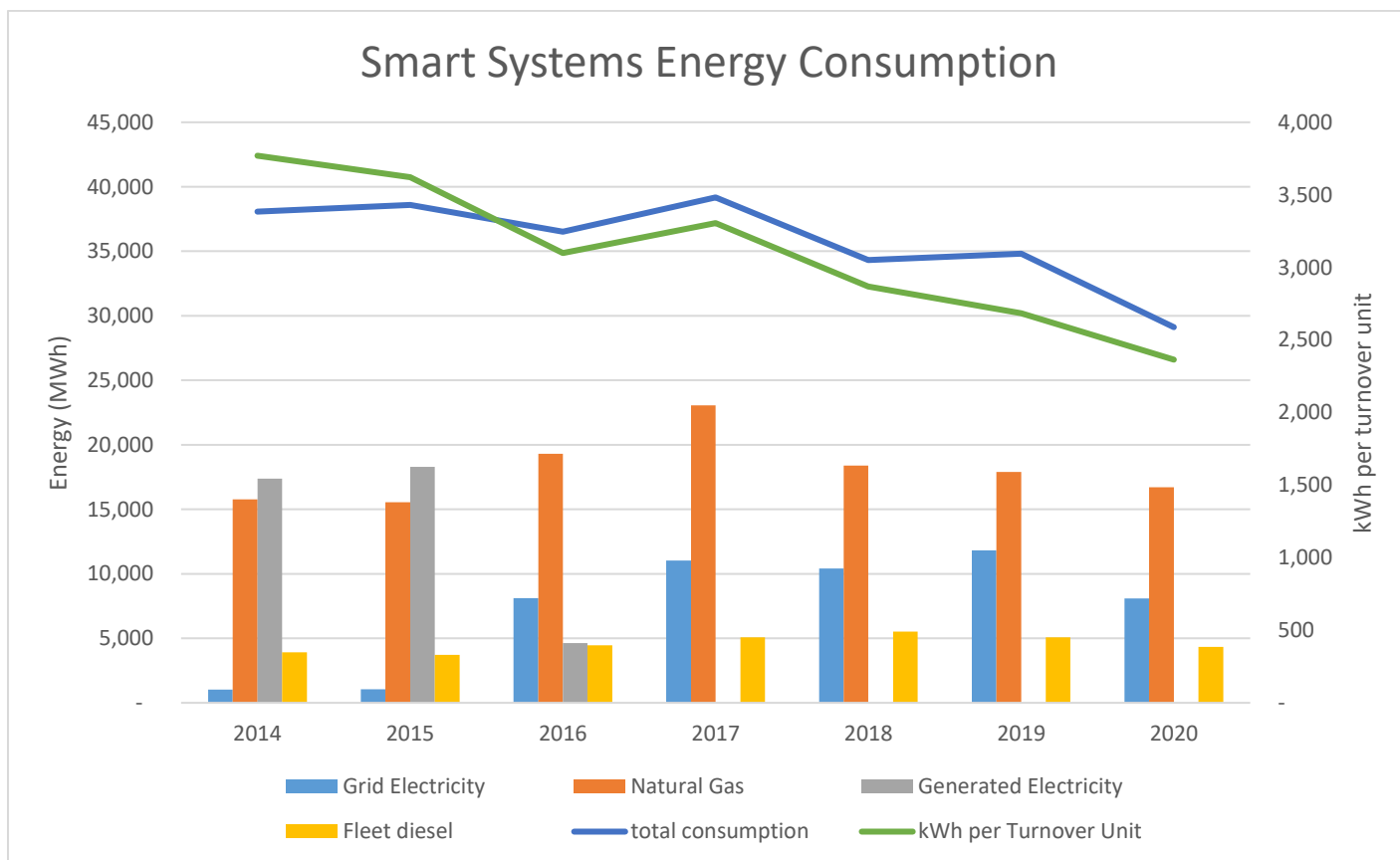
We aim to continually reduce our GHG emissions. Following significant capital investment in 2016, we gained our own independent grid supply, removing reliance on diesel generators and thus the inherent inefficiency of burning fossil fuels. In addition, we have planning permission to install two wind turbines on our site, which will potentially generate more than 15% of our extrusion's electricity supply. Our carpark supports employees who have electric vehicles by having accessible charging points.



Energy Use and Management

Energy management is a crucial element of our management of capacity, cost, emissions and future development. We have had ISO 50001 accreditation since 2015 which models our energy management system for continual improvement.

We are now able to use data to better understand and make decisions about our energy usage and to take appropriate actions to continually improve energy management based on reviews of the system. Since 2015 we have put in place a number of projects and plans to reduce our electricity and diesel consumption, improving our energy performance with respect to our overall output.



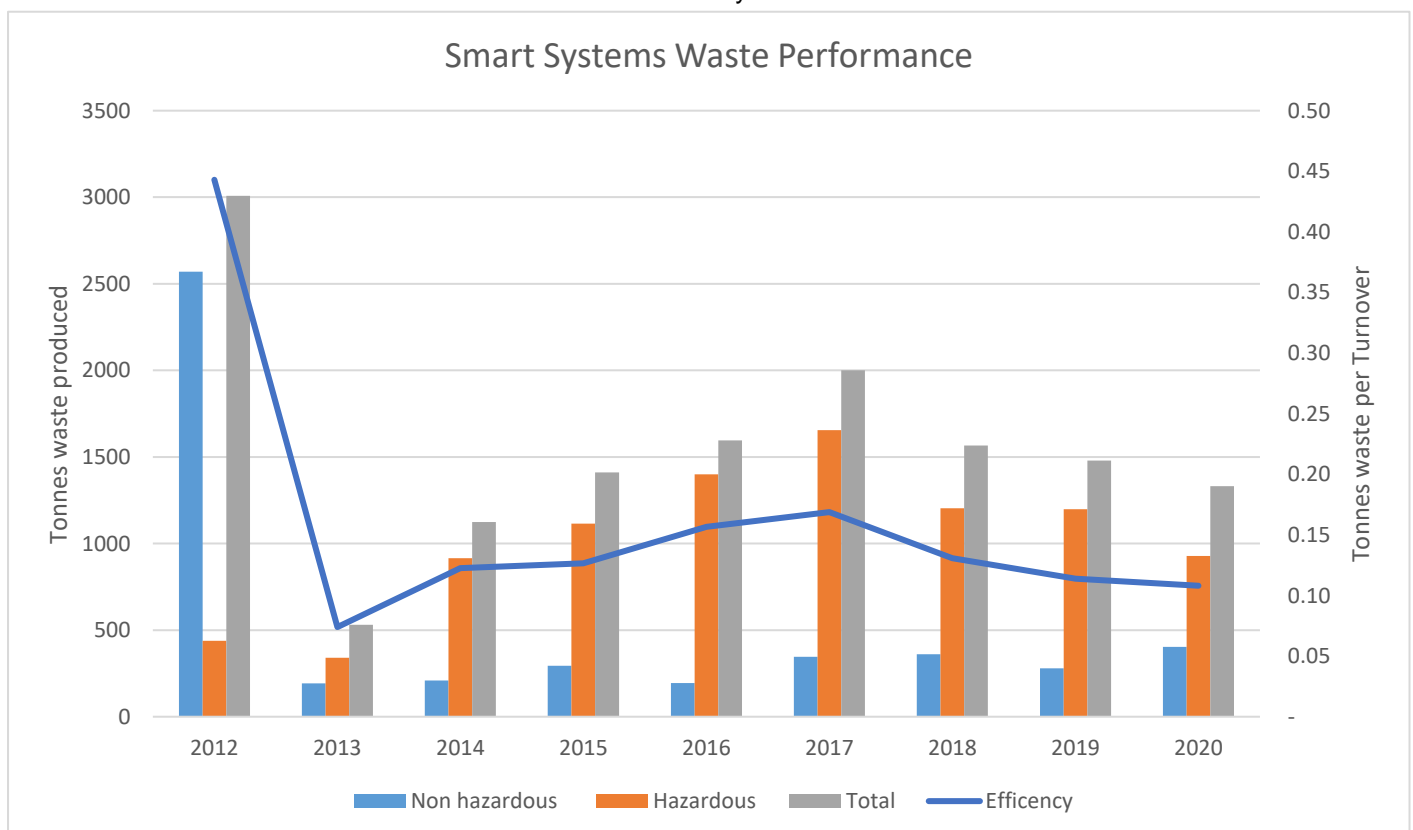
Waste Prevention and Management

In adhering to the Waste Regulations 2011 we deploy a control hierarchy to our waste management. As a large manufacturing company, we generate waste in various forms. As part of our commitment to prevent pollution and fully adhere to legal requirements, we ensure correct separation and storage of waste until collection.

We integrate waste minimisation into our processes to reduce our waste burden. In aluminium extrusion around 15% of the aluminium is not fit for use for its intended purpose, we collect and transport this for re-melting and receive reformed billet in return. Our powder coating lines use non chromate powder to minimise hazardous waste and successfully reuse up to 95% of excess powder. Disposable packaging from suppliers are reused onsite for material storage, whilst our aluminium profiles are delivered in fully reusable stillages.

Furthermore, by ensuring that nothing we add to our profiles impedes recycling when an installed system reaches the end of its useful life, it can easily be recovered and sent for re-melting. We promote post-consumer reuse by creating products that allow glazing and installed accessory replaceability, whilst maintaining unit efficiency and contemporary aesthetics.

Data reported below mirrors the information submitted to the Environment Agency annually.



Resource Use

We are committed to reducing the environmental impact of our products. Aluminium billet and polyamide insulating profiles encompass the make-up of our constituent materials. As per request we offer a 60um powder coat to ensure long life.

Through the design of our systems and their related profiles, we seek to minimise the amount of material used, whilst retaining the strength and durability of the finished products. We are pleased to report that in 2020, 23.7% of our incoming billet was recycled. Our vertical powder coating lines are designed to capture and reuse 98% of excess powder.

We optimise our resource use in cutting of material during fabrication and tailoring project-specific designs to meet specific performance requirements. Our customers receive software tools and training concomitant to product sale, enabling them to assess minimum profile criteria based on wind load/specification.

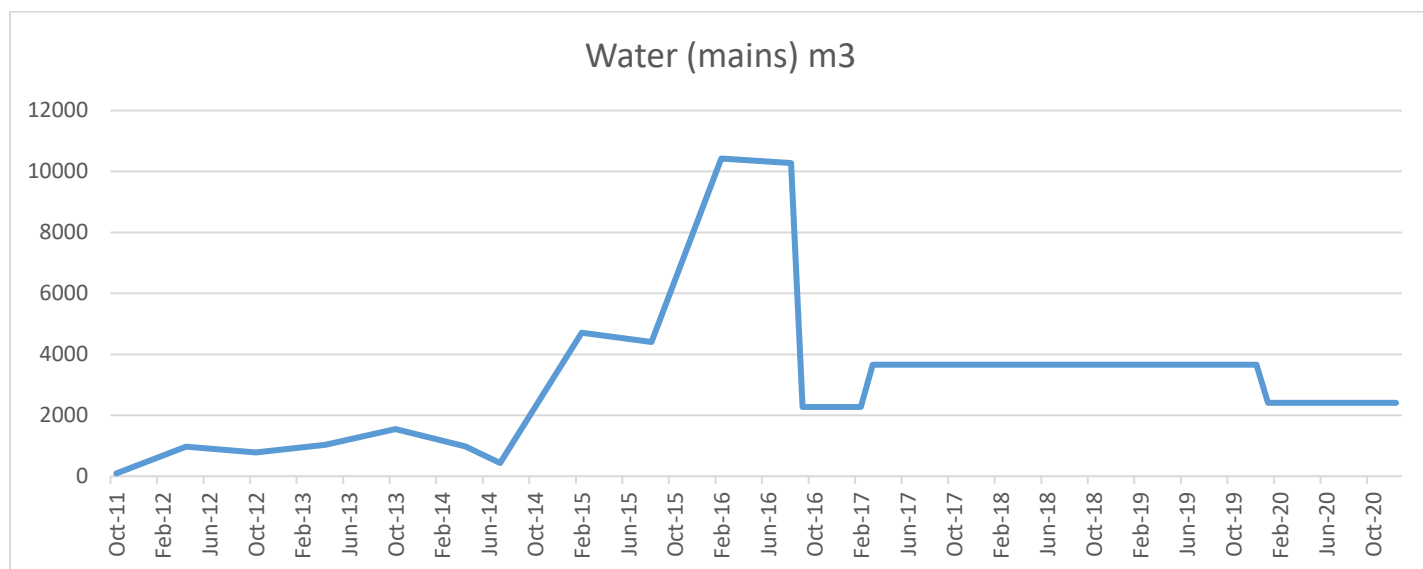
We also recognise that our products have an impact on resource use at the end of their lives. Primarily, we systematically ensure our product have a long-life span by producing reparable and upgradeable products. Our products reach the end of their life with a typical recycle rate of 95% and require no dedicated retrieval scheme due to negligible hazardous material and aluminium being widely recycled.

Water Abstraction

Since 2011 we have invested in abatement strategies to minimize our water usage and have continually improved our water-use efficiency. Our water attenuation system that facilitates rainwater harvesting (2,820,000 capacity) and filtration has afforded substantial reductions in our current and future associated water abstraction demands. Recycling and reusing the ionized water in our powder coating lines' pre-treatment processes has helped reduce our demand on local water resources through mains water abstraction.

In utilizing best available technologies we have significantly improved our water-use efficiency. As part of our expansion programme, in 2014 we installed a state-of-the-art vertical powder coating line, which has a lower water consumption rate than our horizontal, line.

Note that the information reported below is a mixture of metered and estimated data, as supplied by the Utilities providers.



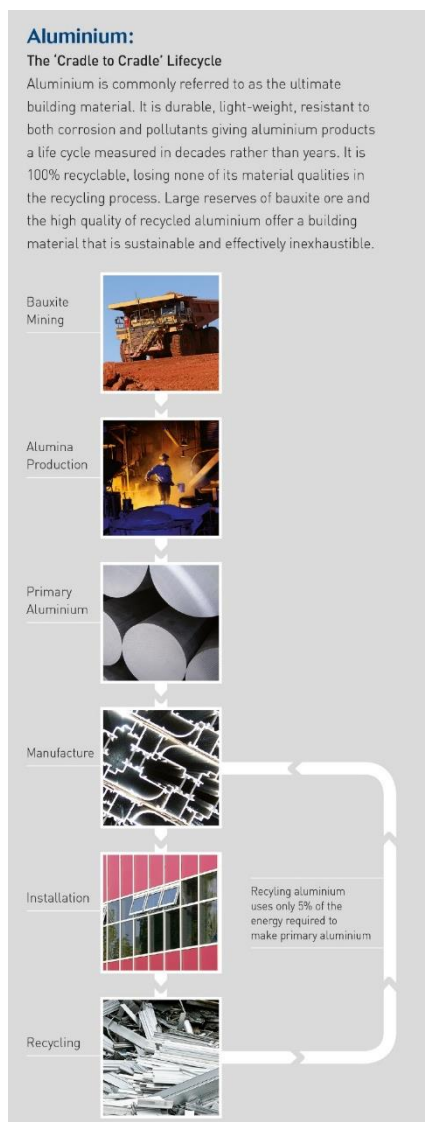
Lifecycle Assessment

The lifecycle of aluminium, and aluminium profiles is widely known and understood. With aluminium products recycled worldwide, it is believed that 75% of aluminium produced in the 1880s is still in use today.

We consider the lifecycle of our products from the design room drawing board, through to production and beyond. Identifying, for example, the risks that chromates hold in powder coating; the impact of energy demand in extrusion and the transportation of our products across the UK.

Detailed and thorough environmental product declarations, footprint calculations and lifecycle studies have been carried out by various aluminium sector trade bodies, action groups, and industry councils - as well as on our own specific examples.

Our objective is to improve the impact of our product across its lifecycle.



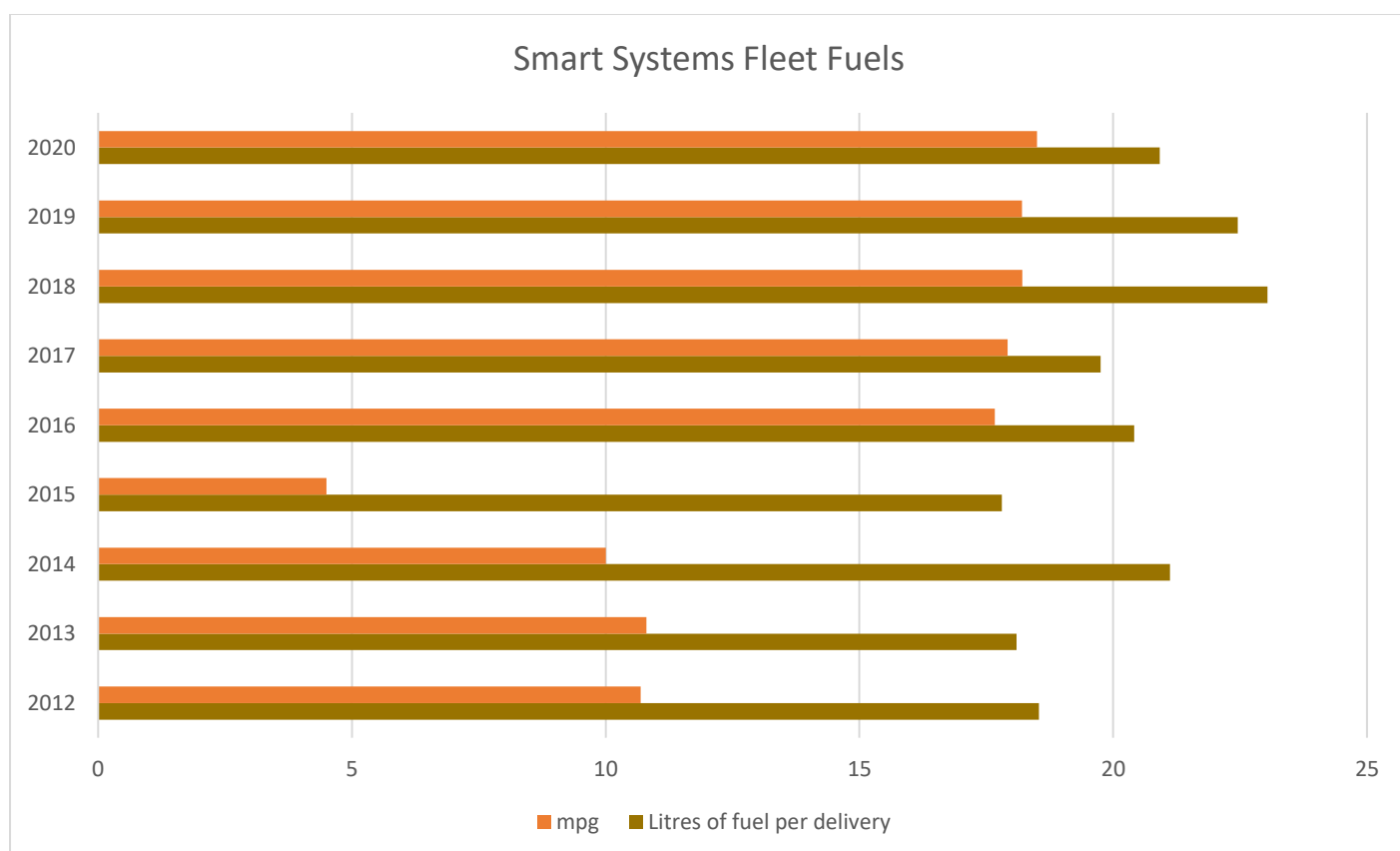
Transport Impacts

We operate our own delivery fleet of rigid vehicles, with wagon and drag, and detachable load boxes, supplemented by efficient national haulage companies to reduce vehicle movements to and from our site.

In 2015, using expanded capacity provided by national haulers, we implemented a network of hubs around the UK, enabling our vehicles to pick up material without having to return to Yatton, reducing empty runs. Whilst this has led to a lower overall MPG rate, as our vehicles are doing more shorter, less efficient journeys, we have increased overall output by 20%, with only a 5% increase in fleet mileage.

In order to mitigate all the potential impacts of our transport activities (spillage and pollution, emissions, addition to congestion, noise etc.), we continue to invest in our fleet. By leasing and upgrading our vehicles regularly, we can meet current Euro V emission requirements. We also ensure each vehicle is maintained by the manufacturer in line with their recommendations, to reduce the risk of spills and leaks. Furthermore, we have installed 360 degree external camera systems on all our vehicles, giving drivers greater vision when operating in tight spaces, as well as the ability to assess their driving style.

From 2015, we set an annual target of a further 5% reduction in litres per delivery and by the end of the first half of 2016, we had already achieved a 3% reduction. Further reductions were achieved by 2017 due to additional distribution hubs coming online in late 2016.



Employment and Skills

We employ around 600 people at our Yatton site. Whilst most of our employees live within a 15-mile radius, we have a diverse and inclusive workforce, with colleagues hailing from across the UK, Europe and beyond.

Where possible, we seek to develop and promote employees within the business, with advancements to supervisory and management roles, the development of technical skills and apprenticeships.

Our team leaders are responsible for identifying training needs and developing potential, enabling people to grow and develop organically without the pressure of 'management involvement'. When a training need is identified, if it is appropriate and practical, it is addressed by third party training, delivering certification for the trainee and aiding their continuing professional development.

Ecotoxicity

Chemicals within the UK must be classified under the retained EU regulation; Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) legislation. UK REACH addresses the production and use of chemical substances, and their potential impacts on both human health and the environment. At the time of writing no products manufactured by Smart Systems Ltd are above the UK REACH threshold.

Although a number of chemicals used within our processes utilise UK REACH registered substances, none are classified as Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) under article 57 of the legislation.

Chemicals used regularly in our processes are Sodium Hydroxide: Registration Number 01-211945-7892, Powder Paints: No known SVHC or SVHC candidates, Hydrochloric Acid: 231-595-7, and Ferric Chloride: 231-729-4.

Business Ethics

We operate in a business environment where the potential for business ethics to be violated or breached exists. Whilst we are able to operate with a large degree of freedom, we are bound not only by our own ethics, but also by those of our parent company, Corialis.

On completion of their induction, each employee signs a group-wide code of conduct, in which they are expected to follow the established Whistleblowing Policy, should the need arise.

The risk associated with bribery and corruption is assessed by the business regularly, to ensure legal and ethical compliance.

Local Communities

As one of the largest local employers and the most active manufacturing facility in the area, we realise that our activities can have both positive and negative impacts on the local community. We are proud to support local companies where possible and practical, including catering, consultancy, technical services, hotels and transport businesses.

The nature of our operation makes it difficult for us to host groups of local stakeholders, however through meetings and consultations, we have involved the community at each stage of our site development.

As with any relationship, there are times when parties disagree, and we treat any community complaint with the same degree of seriousness and level of importance as we would if it were from a customer or regulator.



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