



The Fulfilment Store makes significant energy savings with ISO 14001

Based in Rugby, The Fulfilment Store provides 270 000 sq ft of modern warehouse facilities to customers such as BP, Wrigley, Kia Motors, Phones4U and Amnesty International.

As part of its commitment to environmental matters, The Fulfilment Store has implemented an Environmental Management System which was certified against the internationally recognised ISO 14001 standard in May 2011.

“At The Fulfilment Store, we strongly believe in taking responsibility for reducing the environmental impact of our activities,” says Jeff Larcombe, Managing Director. “The logistics sector is associated with various environmental issues, such as, the energy demands of heating and lighting warehouses; levels of waste packaging; fuel consumption for transporting goods; as well as the potential to cause environmental damage in the event of an accident. ISO 14001 provided us with an efficient framework with which to address these concerns and integrate any improvements into our overall business operation.”

Some of the environmental improvements adopted by The Fulfilment Store include:

- ◆ increased recycling across the whole business to reduce the amount of landfill;
- ◆ preferential use of ISO 14001 certified suppliers (including hauliers);
- ◆ emergency spill procedures including spill kits, clearly identifiable drains and trained staff; and
- ◆ replacement of lights with low energy alternatives.

Health and safety procedures, including fire, have also been brought up to date with the latest recommendations. In addition, The Fulfilment Store has undertaken an internal education programme to foster a culture of environmental awareness among employees.

Energy reductions are one of the biggest cost savings when companies adopt an ISO 14001 Environmental Management System.



The Fulfilment Store’s environmental manager, Kevin Brady, explains his company’s approach, “To make any improvements, you have to be able to measure what you are doing and make an analysis of where your problems are”. As part of this process, The Fulfilment Store’s environmental team produced an energy audit report which identified ways in which energy consumption could be reduced.

“It was found that Unit 3, one of our warehouses, operated with 144 lights (twelve rows of twelve lights).” Kevin recounts. “It was found that using half this number of lights provided more than sufficient lighting – i.e. every other row could be switched off. This has led to a 26.4% reduction in electrical consumption, with an anticipated annual saving of £4000.”

Kevin concludes, “It is sometimes possible to make considerable energy savings by employing very simple measures and with no need for any capital expenditure whatsoever.”

The Managing Director, Jeff Larcombe, believes that ISO14001 will help provide an impetus for continual environmental improvement - essential in a competitive market of rising energy prices, and increases in landfill taxes and packaging regulations.

“At The Fulfilment Store, we pride ourselves in delivering best practice and efficiency to our customers,” says Jeff. “A commitment to investing in innovative technology as well as both Quality (ISO 9001) and Environmental (ISO 14001) Management Systems are key to this success.”

The Fulfilment Store was assisted with implementation of their ISO 14001 Environmental Management System by Frank Pavy, an ISO 14001 consultant and GH Safety associate. Certification was performed by Lloyd’s Register Quality Assurance (LRQA).

