

Lindhurst Engineering preparing for the future

Lindhurst Engineering is developing their business for the future with the help of the Aim Higher Scheme and the projects that were undertaken.

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Lindhurst Engineering Limited took part in the Aim Higher Scheme in the summer of 2013 to undertake two very different but valuable projects. The first was an Energy Resource Audit and the second was to review and update all the company's policies and procedures. Both were extremely important for developing the business.

Lindhurst is a UK company formed in 1985 initially to provide innovative solutions to the UK mining market, focusing particularly on the operational functionality of coal-face equipment. The company has evolved many times since its inception and continues to do so. The company provides design, fabrication, installation and repair of bespoke mechanical components and machines.



The Aim Higher Scheme, run by the Regeneration Shared Service, links talented university undergraduate students with local employers to undertake structured business projects. The scheme is funded through the European Regional Development Fund and therefore the costs to the employer are kept to a minimum.

The company recruited Samuel Clapham, a first year undergraduate studying BSc Mathematics, and Luke Sheffield, a third year studying MEng Civil and Structural Engineering, in the Summer of 2013 to carry out 8-week placements looking at two very different pieces of work.

The first project involved working closely with the in-house engineers to conduct an energy resource audit to establish a base-line for its environmental and energy impact. This data would provide information about the company's carbon footprint and make suggestions on how the company could minimise this.

Martin felt that: 'a good carbon footprint is becoming a 'must have' for companies.' Samuel looked at what was done over the previous two years, how resources could be managed and then made recommendations. The resources he looked at included electric, gas, water, fuel – petrol/diesel/lpg. His recommendations would be implemented, helping the company to save money - giving a positive financial impact for them. An in-depth study on Resource Management will also help to increase their ratings when procuring for new contracts. This, in turn, will increase business and, at the same time, minimise the company's impact on the environment.

The second project involved reviewing in excess of 90 company policies covering all aspects of the business, bringing them up-to-date and rationalising them. Policies were reviewed, updated, deleted and new ones added. Each policy now states the unit reference numbers, review date and details of who is responsible for updating it. These were collated to form an up-to-date operational manual with all the policies that the company has to comply with.

Martin stated that: 'streamlining the operational manual means it is easier to find things. The manual is available in paper and electronic formats and reinforces the message to staff about what should be done.'

Both students have also benefited by putting into practice what they have learnt at University, developed their commercial awareness, gained essential experience for their CV and have a better understanding of the type of business and how it works.

If you are interested in finding out more information about the Aim Higher Scheme or would like to become involved then please [view our online brochure](#) or contact us on 01623 463165.



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