

Sector	Import and wholesale of work clothing and safety footwear	
Business size	10-49	
Area(s) of green Expertise	Energy efficiency Travel	Renewables Staff engagement
Website	www.castleclothing.co.uk	
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Short description of the business

We have been producing and selling workwear and safety footwear in the UK and Europe since 1971. Our brands include TuffStuff, Fort Footwear, Blue Castle, Red Castle and Fortress.

Environmental highlights

Use of solar power. Staff having a high awareness of the importance behind recycling and all participating in our programme.

Green credentials

Suffolk Carbon Charter – Silver award.

A summary of environmental achievements

We have installed a 30kW solar system on our warehouse so we are now covering our own energy use and selling surplus back to the grid. We have introduced a fleet emissions cap, which will ensure that each time a vehicle is replaced the new vehicle will not exceed 110g/km, not only does this reduce our carbon footprint but it also reduces our employees' tax liability! Our staff are much more aware of the difference recycling makes to the environment, this greater understanding lead to the warehouse staff installing bins at the end of each isle in the warehouse to enable them to separate plastics and cardboard which in turn makes the recycling process much more efficient.

Personal testimony

Having a plan in place makes change more straightforward and has allowed us to implement new practices with ease. We have learnt a lot in a short period of time which will allow us to improve and speed up decision making.

Key lessons

Planning is key. Plus, when it comes to the installation of solar panels it is important to speak to a number of installers and completely understand how they plan to fit the panels. There are installers out there who are a little maverick in the way they go about their business! Thankfully, we chose an installer who was fully up to speed with the latest technologies and were extremely professional and trustworthy.

Where did I get my advice?

Groundwork. Mosscliff Environmental.