


Sector	Construction	
Business size	50-250 FTE	
Area(s) of green Expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy efficiency Green Buildings Renewables Staff engagement Travel Waste 	
Business network/ Club membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of the National Federation of Builders Constructionline Approved - No. 4160 CHAS Construction Health SAFEcontractor accredited Member of the Norwich Building Safety Group NHBC Registered OFTEC Registered Gas Safe registered MCS registered installer BS EN ISO 9001:2008 Accredited Cert No. GB01046 	
Website	www.seamans.co.uk	

Short description of the business

Seamans is a construction firm based in Thurston, Suffolk, employing approximately 60 full time staff. Seamans cover a wide spectrum of work from small scale domestic maintenance, through works to listed buildings to housing and commercial developments up to a value of around £5million. Seamans has a track record of working on projects with innovative environmental credentials and is proactive in suggesting green specifications to its clients. The company celebrated its centenary in 2012

Environmental highlights

Being runner up in the Greenest Business category of the Creating the Greenest County Awards in 2013 was an unexpected endorsement of our carbon reduction efforts.

Green credentials

Holder of a Suffolk Carbon Charter Silver Award since June 2012 and runner up in the Greenest Business category of the Creating the Greenest County Awards in 2013.

A summary of environmental achievements

Smarter Driver Training. Almost everyone who participated has been able to improve their fuel consumption figures and the majority of these are still driving more economically than before they were trained.

Speed limiters. The fitting of 60mph speed limiters to the fleet is over 60% complete to date

Paper reduction campaign. A 5% reduction target for paper usage has been set and a campaign launched.

Photo Voltaic installation. To date these have generated over 120000 kWh of electricity equating to around 70 tonnes of CO₂.



Waste Recycling. By adopting the Council's twin-bin recycling scheme we have diverted the equivalent of around 40 1100litre wheelie bins of office waste away from landfill annually.

Heating control to workshop shutter doors. The addition of a control damper linked to a door sensor to only allow the provision of warm air to the area only when the door is closed.

Personal testimony

The major benefit to the business has been through savings on fuel expenditure, both on road fuel and electricity. The Suffolk Carbon Charter provides a credible marketing tool for promotion of the business.

Key lessons

Concentrate on the areas where there is a real business case for change. Real financial benefits can be realised through achieving carbon reduction or environmental improvements.

Keep the momentum up. The early gains are easy to achieve but maintaining improvements, even small ones, can be a challenge.

Where did I get my advice?

The Low Carbons Champions programme run by the Greenlight Trust was the principle source of information and advice. The new Suffolk Carbon Leaders programme run by Carbon Smart has provided assistance with Charter reaccreditation and ideas for maintaining environmental improvement projects.