

European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

A LoCASE CASE STUDY SUCCESS STORY



SINCE 1917



THE PROJECT

Gerald McDonald & Co Ltd is the largest independent juice supplier and blender in the UK and the company is proud to have been supplying the food and drink industry for 100 years. The company's move out of London in 2000 to a purpose-built UK based facility in Basildon, Essex, heralded growth and expansion, bringing all parts of the company under one roof, enabling a greater control over the products supplied. Today, Gerald McDonald & Company continue to invest in the latest processing, blending, packaging and storage facilities to ensure they offer the best possible product and service to customers. They also invest in equipment to reduce their impact on the environment.

In keeping with the company's wish to reduce its impact on the environment, it was identified that the refrigeration systems that are in constant use were over 16 years old. At the time of installation R404A refrigerant was widely used and considered suitable for the purpose, this type of refrigerant is now not considered to be environmentally friendly mainly due to its global warming potential (GWP), of 3922, and is being phased out, becoming prohibited in 2020.

THE PROCESS

Gerald McDonald & Co Ltd contacted the LoCASE project and the resulting visit and free assessment by one of the LoCASE Energy Advisors, confirmed the need for the new refrigerant. The paper work was completed and a supplier chosen who would undertake the refrigeration retrofit of 6x refrigeration systems, along with the disposal of the old refrigerant from each condensing unit.

THE OUTCOME

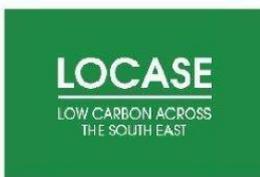
The positive outcome of the project resulting in a grant of £10,000, has meant that the company has now replaced its outdated R404A refrigerant with R449A Opteon XP40, which has a GWP of

1397 and will comply with the 2020 deadline. The specialist company also ensured that the old refrigerant was disposed of in keeping with the regulations that are in place.

The implementation of the project has also enabled the business to improve their energy efficiency and will also prevent the release of harmful gas into the atmosphere, further reducing their impact on the environment.

The LOCASE project is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and aims to support SMEs across the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) region to lower their carbon emissions and improve their energy efficiency through targeted business support and grants.

For further information and contact details, please visit the LoCASE project at www.locase.co.uk.



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