



Toddington Harper,
CEO OF BELECTRIC UK

CASE STUDY:

BELECTRIC UK leads KTC Edibles to energy-efficiency with help from the EEF Scheme

KTC Edibles & BELECTRIC, Wednesbury, West Midlands

Based in Wednesbury, West Midlands, KTC Edibles is Britain's largest private manufacturer and distributor of edible oils and fats. KTC Edibles has been operating since 1972, and although trade in edible oils and fats is its core market (constituting 70% of their trade), the company also supplies a wide array of food products to independent and national retailers across the UK.

The main site at Wednesbury, which includes a flat-roofed, 200,000 sq. ft warehouse, is a huge consumer of electricity. Concerned about impact on the environment as well as the financial implications of rising electricity prices, Paresh Mehta, the commercial director at KTC Edibles, sought to tackle the future energy-cost issues by looking into energy-efficient technologies. Following an extensive selection process, BELECTRIC UK was appointed to install a 250kWp solar photovoltaic system on the warehouse, using financing from the Energy Efficiency Financing (EEF) scheme.

The EEF scheme, a joint initiative between the Carbon Trust and Siemens Financial Services Limited (SFS) is designed to provide finance for energy-



efficient equipment for businesses, where the expected savings in energy costs offset the monthly equipment finance costs, effectively making the investment zero net cost or even cash positive. Prior to finance being approved, the Carbon Trust conducts an independent energy savings assessment to verify that the expected energy savings will match or exceed the equipment finance payments, giving businesses the additional assurance that the projected figures provided by approved suppliers such as BELECTRIC UK are accurate.

Through the EEF scheme, BELECTRIC UK was able to organise a 10-year financing solution for the £262,500 solar PV project for KTC Edibles. Once installed, the company was able to start saving on their energy bills immediately. In the first month, taking into account the income from the Feed-in-Tariffs (FiTs), as well as the substantial energy savings, total revenue and savings reached £5,274, which was significantly more than was predicted. After 20 years, it is projected that the total revenue and savings is expected to exceed £1 million,

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which gives KTC Edibles an expected net profit of over £719,000 during that period.

Paresh Mehta, Commercial director at KTC Edibles, commented, ‘The EEF scheme took away the financial strain that this investment would have had on our business. Although we could have paid up front, it was still a considerable capital expenditure for a business of our size, so the finance proposal by SFS was an ideal solution. Our main objectives were to make financial savings on electricity bills and at the same time, make steps towards reducing our carbon footprint. The solar PV panels are estimated to reduce our carbon emissions by 124 tonnes per year which is in line with our internal campaign to help the community and the environment. This large investment into energy-efficiency was a big leap for us. The EEF scheme

is seamless and user-friendly and I would definitely look to use them again for future projects that I have in mind.’

Toddington Harper, CEO at BELECTRIC UK, commented, ‘Since becoming a recognised supplier of the EEF scheme, we have incorporated this financing option into our initial proposals to all appropriate clients. It is an extremely influential addition that has helped us close many deals including the project with KTC Edibles. It allows our clients to finance projects that they might not have otherwise gone ahead with. The best thing about this financing solution is that our clients do not have to pay for the equipment up front, and they directly receive all the benefits from both the electricity savings and the 20 year FIT subsidy.

Belectric and the EEF scheme

BELECTRIC UK, based in Buckinghamshire, is part of the BELECTRIC Group, the world market leader in the development, installation and maintenance of high quality solar photovoltaic systems. BELECTRIC have offices in 23 countries worldwide and have completed over 3000 commercial scale solar PV systems, and 1.5GWp in total, providing green solar energy to over 1 million people. Since 2012, BELECTRIC UK has been offering a bespoke package combining technology and financing from the EEF scheme. This integrated solution enables BELECTRIC UK to approach customers with a convenient, one-stop-shop experience that combines energy-efficiency equipment and the financing for it.

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