

How Eli Lilly UK realized a 6 % waste reduction

Under a Total Waste Management (TWM) contract, Indaver manages 270 tonnes of hazardous and non-hazardous waste from the Eli Lilly R&D site in Erl Wood. The largest tonnages are clinical (laboratory) waste and solvents produced during the research and development of medicines for humans and animals. As TWM partner for all Eli Lilly UK sites (2), Indaver contributed to more composting and recycling solutions with a 6 % drop in residual waste as a result. In addition, some waste handling methods were simplified. All these improvements also yielded savings, to Lilly's great satisfaction. Colin Bamsford, Facility Manager @ Eli Lilly clarifies how Indaver realized these sustainable results and how they fit into their sustainable 'Green Belt' vision/region.



Compliant as an organization in a healthy environment

"Eli Lilly R&D site is situated in the middle of a forest. Protecting this Green Belt region and developing a sustainable vision is one of the key tasks of the Facility Group/Department". Safeguarding the biodiversity around the site and broader environment is essential because it creates a positive surrounding to do a good job & attract educated people. By creating experience and focusing on cost retaining, risk management and compliance we can have a strong impact on this surrounding. In terms of waste management it is Bamsford's opinion that "a great deal of actions can have a positive effect on this Green Belt vision. Not only the final destination of waste is an important issue, also the people and how we handle and track the waste are key in developing a most sustainable waste management. Finding this cultural fit with a partner or supplier is crucial. Indaver proved to fit for purpose and always offer full compliant solutions."

The upper limit in safety

"One way is to look at moving waste streams up the hierarchy, avoid waste if possible but always take the safest option, the upper limit. But it can stretch much further than that. Together with Indaver a reclassification of the clinical lab waste was executed. Non hazardous waste was separated from the offensive hygiene waste which led to a reduction of the hazardous waste. To realise such optimization a good deal of technical knowledge is required. As of 2011, zero landfill was reached. It is the experience and the expertise combined with the knowledge which guarantee that a correct outlet is chosen, optimizations are executed and reporting results are correctly interpreted. Rental costs instead of lease costs, cleaning wheeliebins, a simplification of waste handling methods and new composting and recycling solutions are just a few examples in which Indaver proved it could put its money where its mouth is."

Overview arouses the right questions

"Using Indaver's extensive reporting providing detailed data overview does not provide you with the answer but helps you ask the right questions". Correct analysis of these data also contributed to the 6 % residual waste reduction. In 2013, The Erl Wood site received the 2012 Eli Lilly Global HSE Award for waste reduction. During Quarterly reviews, when Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) are evaluated waste data are discussed to decide the upcoming actions. It is Eli Lilly's goal and challenge to attain a sustainable result in waste of 60 % recycling, 25 % energy recovery and 15 % incineration. We rely on Indaver to help us deliver."

Involvement improves segregation



"Having an Indaver project manager who knows and understands his business is a great relief. He helps me to do better, since I'm not the expert. Dedicated persons who understand our processes are more involved and triggered to look for opportunities. Training and explaining to lab workers what to do with their lab waste, support in Corporate Environmental H&S & Duty of Care audits and responding to questions in a timely manner makes us feel confident about our supplier choice. Especially in our tripartite situation (tripartite relation with Sodexo (Operations), Indaver (TWM) & Eli Lilly), it is essential to see through the complexity and remain diplomatic. As Indaver is an international company, I expect them to bring its expertise, tools and mechanisms from other industrial customers so Eli Lilly can benefit from it."