

DECEMBER 2023

# The Micron



The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo

The new project with ESD is well underway



## GOOD RELATIONSHIP CONTINUES WITH ESD

AJE is powering ahead with the fabrication of the structural steelwork, metalwork and pipework for a water treatment works near Keith.

The project has been awarded by Efficient Service Delivery (ESD) for the Herricks Water Treatment Works off the back of other successful projects that AJE has completed for the company.

Since 2018, AJE has built up a strong relationship with ESD and to date has worked on 37 projects for them.

Herricks Water Treatment Works (WTW) supplies the communities of Keith, Aultmore and Drummuir.

M&E Technical Services Manager, Wilson Burnett said: "The WTW consists of conventional treatment based on coagulation, dissolved air flotation and rapid gravity filtration

and it had not had any major upgrade since its construction in 1970, so it was decided that the existing treatment works would be replaced.

"Now we have started on site we will be there until next Summer to supply and install the following: New portal frame building and cladding, 10 process tanks, all secondary access steel work and mechanical install including all S/S pipework.

The project is almost a mirror image of a previous project that was completed in Huntly.

Last April, we told how AJE had secured three contracts with ESD for its Craighead site which involved the fabrication and installation of 10 Treatment Process Tanks, the installation of building steel and cladding to house the new Water Treatment Works and the associated mechanical works for that building.

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## AJE gets smart about carbon savings

AJ Engineering has introduced technology to help manage its carbon footprint and improve efficiency with the introduction of internet of things (IoT) technology.

Securing funding and technical support from CENSIS, Scotland's innovation centre for sensing, imaging, and IoT technologies, AJE is on track to make savings on annual electricity usage as a result of the new systems.

A series of connected sensors are now in operation across AJ Engineering's Greshop site, enabling the management team to spot exactly where energy is being used and take steps to reduce consumption in particular processes or buildings.

The technology has already highlighted significant savings that can be made by reducing the heating and lighting at parts of the facility that had not been identified as large consumers of power.

Having access to real-time data about the carbon footprint will also help AJE communicate its green credentials to current customers and win new contracts.

Graham Alexander said: "Introducing this new system has opened our eyes to how different parts of the business consume energy. The equipment has allowed us to have a much better appreciation of what aspects of our production and business are the largest energy consumers.

"As well as cutting our own carbon footprint, the technology will have benefits for customers across the sectors we operate in. They are increasingly asking us to supply



The new device install location

information about our carbon footprint and the energy consumed by specific processes for their own emissions reporting. With access to accurate real-time data, we will be well-equipped to do so."

The initiative formed part of the IoT Evolve programme, which was funded by the Scottish Government and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) to support SMEs in the region with the development and application of IoT technologies.

Ally Longmuir, business development manager at CENSIS, said: "This was AJ Engineering's first foray into the world of IoT and it is great to see the business realising the benefits of the technology almost immediately. Sustainability and carbon accounting are only going to become more critical as Scotland approaches its 2045 net zero target, and this is a great example of how digital adoption can support the wider goals and be applied to almost any industry."

## AJE's role helps island connect

AJ Engineering is playing a key role in ensuring that a remote part of Scotland is connected to the British Energy System.

Working for Morgan Sindall on behalf of Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN), AJ Engineering has been contracted to fabricate and install a new grid supply point (GSP) substation at Gremista near Lerwick on Shetland.

The multi-million-pound development will allow Shetland to be connected to the GB energy system for the first time.

The project involves three new buildings which will process the electricity generated from the Viking windfarm.

When connected, the GSP will remove Shetland's dependency on diesel generation as the primary source of generation from Lerwick Power Station.

Graham Alexander said: "Financially, this is a big project for AJE with it currently being at the drawing stage. It's also significant for the customer as it means for the first time ever, Shetland will not be reliant on diesel. We are expected to start on site in April 2024 with the aim to be completed by November of that year."

The Viking Wind Farm is not new to AJE. Last year, the company worked on three separate projects there which involved the detailing and installation of a total of nine buildings which are now being used in various ways to support the infrastructure of the windfarm.

## LIGHTS SHINE ON VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers were out in force at the end of last month to help erect the Forres Christmas lights.

The 25 strong team of volunteers which included Simon, Aidy and Graham who give up their own time, worked tirelessly to ensure the lights were put up in time for the switch-on this weekend on Saturday, December 2.

AJE loaned the Christmas Light Committee



Volunteers were out in force to erect the Forres Christmas lights

use of two telehandlers to make the job run smoothly. Community engagement and support is very important to the company.

This year alone it has loaned equipment to the Forres Highland Games and to the Rotary Club of Forres to help build the town's bonfire. It has been involved in a number of projects where it has given items for free, such as the new goal posts which were installed at Applegrove Primary



School and has welcomed youngsters to its premises for a variety of workplace visits.

AJE also fabricated brackets for a new light display which has been erected on the side of the town's Tolbooth.

The light was purchased by the Christmas Lights Committee from a donation received following a golf charity day in memory of Derek Gordon.

