

# Pic-Up Spares Case Study

0% Business loans for SMEs in Wales



## Business Focus

Pic-Up Spares is an automotive recycling and car parts business operating over two sites in Swansea.

High electricity bills and maintenance costs from the company's existing lighting system prompted an investigation into opportunities to improve energy efficiency and save money.

The company identified that by installing smart LED lighting it could achieve savings of over £12,000 a year, as well as cutting its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60 tonnes.

The cost of this installation was under £11,000, which was partially met with an interest-free business loan from the Carbon Trust for £7,500. This meant the project provided full return on investment in less than one year.

## Technical Approach

The project at Pic-Up Spares involved removing over 400 lamps and replacing them with LED lamps and new fittings wherever possible.

The site's traditional floodlights were also replaced with the latest LED lights, meeting the European standards for indoor and outdoor use. In addition to this, smart sensors were introduced to ensure the effective use of electricity.

These results have had a positive impact on Pic-Up Spares' carbon reduction plan, putting them ahead of their own target.

## Interest-free Loan Scheme

Interest free loans are available to small and medium-sized businesses in Wales wanting to reduce their carbon footprint by installing more efficient equipment and technologies. Businesses must have fewer than 250 employees to qualify and the size of the loan offered is based on the evaluated CO<sub>2</sub> savings of a project, which will be assessed by the Carbon Trust. A range of industrial process and building-based projects will be considered, such as energy efficient lighting, heating and pipe insulation.

For more details see:

<http://www.carbontrust.com/walesloans>

## SAVINGS AT A GLANCE

**£7,500**

Loan amount

**£12,000**

Annual cost saving

**60 tonnes**

Annual CO<sub>2</sub> saving



“The results have been fantastic; the LEDs alone have reduced our wattage by up to 65%, whilst the smart LED lights have reduced wattage by 90%. Compared to the 139,000 kW we were using per annum before the switch, we now consume 14,000 kW per year”

**Tim Swain**

Managing Director, Pic-Up Spares