



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund



HM Government

LOCASE

LOW CARBON ACROSS
THE SOUTH AND EAST

A LOCASE CASE STUDY SUCCESS STORY

COMPANY NAME: G T Factors Ltd



LOCATION: Eastbourne, East Sussex

THE PROJECT

Project outline: Brief history of company/Description of the aim of the project/What will be needed to achieve the desired outcome?

GTF are manufacturers of cargo securing equipment based in Eastbourne. GTF wanted to install solar panels for a couple of reasons, we recognised the importance of reducing our carbon footprint. Through generating our electricity through solar we could reduce our reliance on traditional energy sources and in the long term reduces our costs. The introduction of solar benefits both the company and the environment.

THE PROCESS

How the business first engaged with LoCASE/How did it hear about LoCASE/Ease of application process etc.

We heard of LoCASE through OHM Energy, who are based in Eastbourne, when we initially started looking for solar panels. Our application was handled by Opergy, who were contracted by East Sussex County Council to deliver the LoCASE support programme in East Sussex to businesses, and it ran smoothly.

THE OUTCOME

Result of the project upon completion/What was achieved/What did you gain by participating/How much grant did you receive/What will be your projected savings on Fuel bills & CO2 (if known):

We installed 84kWh of solar panels on our factory roof, which offsets our total energy requirement for the year meaning we now a nett exporter of energy. We received a £10,000 grant from Locase which helped reduce the total cost of the project. We estimate we will save around £16,000 per year through reduced usage and the export of our excess solar power. We are looking at installing batteries later in the year. The only downside of having solar panels in Eastbourne is the excessive number of Seagulls (in excess of 100 nests on our Industrial Estate alone) through their enormous number of droppings has reduced our solar output by as much as 15-20%. Since we installed our solar panels in December 2022 we have produced 33MWh of electricity.

TESTIMONIAL

Summary of the project as a whole from your own perspective, in your own words/Did the project achieve what it set out to/Did it deliver the result/s you were hoping for/Would you recommend the LoCASE Project to other SME Businesses:

The project, spearheaded by G T Factors, aimed to install solar panels with the support of a £10,000 grant from Locase. From my perspective, the project was successful in achieving its objectives. By installing solar panels, G T Factors took a significant step towards reducing their carbon footprint and embracing renewable energy. The financial support provided by Locase helped in making the project feasible and financially viable. The solar panels not only helped G T Factors save costs in the long run but also positioned them as a leader in sustainable practices. Overall, the project delivered the desired results, fulfilling its environmental and financial goals. I would highly recommend the Locase Project to other SME businesses looking to adopt renewable energy solutions. The grant and support offered by Locase can make a significant difference in achieving sustainability objectives while benefiting from long-term cost savings.

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 regarding the LoCASE project, please contact business@thurrock.gov.uk or visit www.locase.co.uk Phone: 01375 652271

