



AVIATION
business news
aviationbusinessnews.com

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIAL ISSUE



**WEIGHT OF
EXPECTATIONS**

Can shedding pounds really make a
substantive difference to emissions?

KNOW THE INDUSTRY INFORMATION FROM:
AJW • DIEHL • MUIRHEAD • MIRUS • PRATT & WHITNEY • PLUS MORE...

EMBEDDED SUSTAINABILITY

Clyde Buntrock, CEO, AJW Aviation & Technique outlines the MRO provider's plans

Since its establishment in 1932, AJW Group has grown from a small aviation business in South England into a global leader in the MRO sector, supporting commercial, business and defence aviation. While the company's early success was built on engineering excellence, operational reliability and a broad range of service offerings, its modern identity is shaped by a deep commitment to improving sustainability and responsible business practices.

In an era when the aviation industry is increasingly focused on environmental impact, AJW is leading by example, transforming its operations to drive increased sustainability and to embrace more eco-friendly innovations.

SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS

AJW Group is dedicated to improving sustainability through its various operations, from the sourcing of materials to the execution of its MRO services. A key initiative driving this commitment is the introduction of products and practices that are less environmentally damaging across AJW's supply chain. For instance, in its global warehouses, the company has replaced conventional packaging materials with less environmentally damaging alternatives such as biodegradable tape and recyclable packaging. These measures may seem small, but they are part of a larger, strategic approach to reducing waste and minimising the company's overall carbon footprint.



The company understands that sustainability is not only about selecting the right products but also about ensuring that the entire process, from manufacturing to disposal, is more environmentally responsible.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS IN OUR MRO FACILITIES

AJW Group's MRO facilities, located in Montreal, Canada and Slinfold, UK, play a central role in its sustainability strategy. These facilities, which focus on the repair and overhaul of key aviation components, are being transformed to operate in a more environmentally responsible manner. Wherever possible, the company uses aqueous-based cleaning solutions instead of harmful chemicals, reducing the ecological impact of its operations. This not only contributes to a healthier environment but also supports its commitment to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and its principles around environmental responsibility.

In addition to these more sustainable cleaning practices, the business is





“AJW Group’s modern identity is shaped by a deep commitment to improving sustainability”

exploring new materials that have a lower environmental impact across its MRO operations. This includes the recycling and repurposing of components where possible, as well as selecting chemicals and materials that are less harmful to the environment but still meet the stringent safety and performance requirements set by OEMs. Where parts cannot be repaired or re-used, AJW ensures that materials are properly segregated and recycled, maximising resource efficiency and minimising waste.

These initiatives highlight the Group’s commitment to ensuring that the full lifecycle of the aviation components it handles is as sustainable as possible, from repair and refurbishment to end-of-life management. By adopting a circular economy approach, AJW is contributing to the broader aviation industry’s goal of reducing its environmental footprint where possible and moving towards more sustainable operations.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

AJW’s commitment to increasing the sustainability of its business is

not limited to its MRO facilities. The company has made significant investments in renewable energy across its global operations, starting with its headquarters in the UK. AJW’s headquarters is equipped with rainwater harvesting systems and over 2,500 solar panels, expected to generate nearly 800,000 kWh of renewable energy annually. At 175,000 sq ft, the AJW HQ has the potential to power up to 55% of its UK-based operations with solar energy.

The AJW Technique battery MRO facility benefits from this renewable energy source, offering customers a service that aligns with their own sustainability objectives.

This important milestone marks a shift towards more sustainable energy usage, as aircraft batteries entering the facility are predominantly recharged using renewable solar energy. The integration of renewable energy into day-to-day operations not only enhances the company’s energy efficiency but also aligns with the constantly growing demand for ever more environmentally responsible aviation solutions.

1. The AJW Group headquarters
2. Clyde Buntrock, CEO
3. AJW is firmly focused on reducing its overall carbon footprint. Credit: Alamy

REDUCING EMISSIONS

As part of its commitment to transparency and accountability, AJW Group reports on its carbon emissions in line with Scope 1 and 2 standards, which cover its use of electricity, gas and transport fuel across its global operations. By carefully monitoring and reporting on these emissions, AJW can identify areas for improvement and implement measures to reduce its environmental impact. These measures include simple yet effective strategies such as scheduling machinery to turn off when not in use and installing motion sensors to control office lighting.

At its MRO facility AJW Technique in Montreal, Quebec, where most of the electrical power is generated from renewable sources (primarily hydroelectricity), the facility is ideally positioned to operate with a reduced carbon footprint. Recent energy-saving initiatives at the facility include a full retrofit of its lighting system, replacing outdated fixtures with more efficient options, and upgrading air compressors to models that better meet the company’s requirements.

HOLISTIC APPROACH

As the industry adapts to the growing demand for increased sustainability, MRO providers like AJW are finding that their customers are increasingly seeking less environmentally damaging solutions. Airlines and operators, under pressure to meet regulatory requirements and customer expectations, are looking for partners who can help them achieve their sustainability goals. The Group’s focus on repair, re-use and overhaul of aircraft components and parts, combined with



its investment in renewable energy and more environmentally responsible practices, positions the company as a preferred partner for customers who prioritise increased sustainability.

AJW's ability to offer cost-effective and less environmentally damaging MRO services not only benefits the environment but also helps customers reduce their operational costs. By extending the life of aviation components through repair and refurbishment, more environmentally conscious companies can reduce the need for new parts, lowering both costs and the carbon footprint associated with manufacturing. This alignment between sustainability and cost efficiency is a key factor driving AJW's success in today's market.

For AJW Group, sustainability is not just about reducing emissions or using less environmentally damaging products – it is a holistic approach that spreads across

the global operations of the business. AJW is committed to operating in a way that reduces its environmental impact while maximising its contribution to the long-term health of the aviation industry. This commitment is reflected in the company's dedication to implementing the four pillars of the UN Global Compact: Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. These principles guide AJW's corporate governance and ensure that sustainability is integrated into its decision-making processes.

As the aviation industry moves towards the ambitious goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, AJW Group is well-positioned to play its part by reducing its own emissions. Through continuous innovation, strategic partnerships and a relentless focus on increasing sustainability, the company is striving to shape a greener, more responsible future for aviation. ●



100%

Energy efficiency has been a particular focus at the AJW Technique facility in Montreal. Located in Quebec, where nearly 100% of electrical power is generated from renewable sources (primarily hydroelectricity), the facility is ideally positioned to operate with a minimal carbon footprint

▲ Some of the 2,500 solar roof panels installed at the firm's UK facility



AJW®

Underutilised inventory?

Our global network of
customers will unlock
your inventory value

AJW Group is the world-leading, independent, parts, repair, lease, engine, flight hour programme and supply chain solution integrator, transforming efficiency in commercial, business and defence aviation.

With hubs and offices on every continent - including AJW Technique, a state-of-the-art component MRO facility in Montreal - nose to tail, we have you covered.

ajw-group.com