

EDF Energy’s safe and secure operation of its eight existing nuclear power stations at sites across the country makes it the UK’s largest generator of **low carbon electricity**. Through its environmental and social programme, the biggest of any UK energy company, it is committed to a greener workplace as well.

KorteQ Limited has helped the organisation and its partners to optimise collaboration between large teams of expert technologists working across the UK, Europe and worldwide, by implementing an innovative **Technical Exchange Forum** (TEF).

This secure and scalable solution, based on a Microsoft Windows SharePoint platform, enables team members to share the expert knowledge which has been “downloaded” using KorteQ’s streamlined processes and the up-to-the minute intelligence which is vital to the business.

What’s more, the 350 users from British Energy and more than 20 specialist partner organisations can collaborate effectively using this “one-stop-shop”, without having to incur the costs and environmental impact of the business travel previously required for regular review meetings.



There are several distinct teams using the TEF, each with a section customised to meet their specific needs, all within a common easy-to-use template.

For example, the Inspection team members use the TEF for efficient on-line transfer of their data, which is then analysed by specialists at the head office. Results, conclusions, and feedback are then submitted to the forum, instantly visible to all authorised users.

Project working has also been accelerated for the DTA team, whose partners can now collaborate in real-time on their draft reports, again without incurring travel costs.

Neil McLachlan, work pack manager, recognises the benefits of on-line knowledge sharing: “People used to e-mail or call me requesting information on a weekly basis,” he says. “Now engineers and others all over the world can go straight to our SharePoint site and retrieve their required information – removing me as a potential bottleneck. It’s really valuable that our partners can obtain the necessary supporting information and answers to their questions whenever they need them.”

As a new generation of engineers is drawn to an exciting future working in the resurgent low carbon energy sector, such solutions for continuous knowledge management are coming to represent the ultimate in efficient, environmentally-friendly working practices.