

# CARRIS

# UTILITY SOLUTIONS

## COMPANY NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2017  
Issue 03

### FROM THE OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

During our year of change we have faced many challenges; many were expected, but a few have come as a surprise.

The commitment and ability of every team member to embrace change is vital to ensure our success.

The exciting changes being implemented will allow our business to become a market leader within a rapidly changing sector.

All of us at Carris Utility Solutions have the opportunity to rise to the challenge and secure our position for years to come, by providing an unrivalled service to our valued clients, both current and prospective.

We will, however, only make this aim a reality by all working efficiently together; hard work and focus are needed to reach our end goal.

Together let's make the aim a reality.

-Sam Polley

### WHERE TO FIND US

Main Office: Unit 3 Meridian Centre, Vulcan Way,  
Croydon, CR0 9UG

Ashford Depot: Unit 1, Sandy Lane Farm, Sandy Lane,  
Great Chart, Ashford, Kent, TN26 1JN

tel: 01689 809 844  
email: [marketing@carris-utility.co.uk](mailto:marketing@carris-utility.co.uk)

### CABLE STRIKES

One of the biggest risks for our operatives is accidentally striking underground cables.

In an effort to raise awareness and prevent cable strikes from happening, CUS are working on a poster to help inform about the dangers and give tips on what to do.



- 1 Message from OD / Cable Strikes
- 2 What's New / Website
- 3 PPE Update / Toolbox Talks
- 4 West Hendon Project / Interview

## WHAT'S NEW

Welcome to the Autumn 2017 edition of the CUS Newsletter!

This month we welcome three new employees; Kane Richardson takes the role of Regional Manager, Ricky Stankovich is a new Project Manager, and Shanice Harris is our new Receptionist and Operational Business Support. We hope you all have a successful career here at Carris.

We also have some movement of employees within the business. Anna-Maria Dixon takes on the new role of Project Co-ordinator, Brian Hughes becomes Reinstatement Manager, and Ron Davis is our new Plant Manager. Congratulations to you all on your new jobs!

The refurbishment and reorganisation of the CUS main office is well underway, with extensive relaying of flooring, painting, and general movement of furniture and staff. We think that a move-around will be good for all of our staff to help them focus and do the best work they can going forward, in a new setting.

From the start of September, we will be carrying out the installation of our new offices in Didcot. This will enable us to expand further in to the Thames Valley region and provide a more efficient service to the surrounding areas.

Along with the office, we have also taken on a new yard to allow us to support our clients and teams with the storage of our fleet, plant, and materials.

Carris Utility Solutions is committed to reducing our carbon footprint and making a positive impact on the environment. The introduction of our new Didcot depot demonstrates a huge step forwards in our journey towards becoming a leading environmentally friendly company in the utility market.

## NEW WEBSITE

Over the past couple of months I've put a lot of time into coding the new Carris website.

There is an employee directory for visitors to get to know the office staff a little, with a short bio, list of qualifications, and details on some of the work undertaken by the employees within the company.

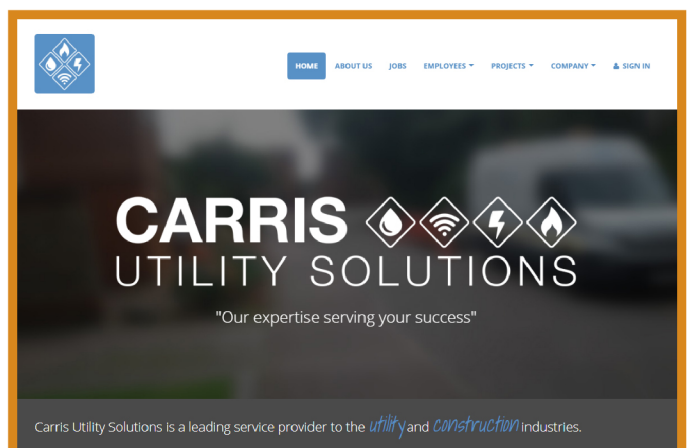
I aimed to make the website as easy to use as possible and, by looking at what does and doesn't work on other websites within the same sector, I feel that I have achieved this.

We have a full working blog to make announcements and to keep everyone up to date with things that are happening in the company.

In order to make our work more visible, we will also be putting up select projects that we are undertaking so that the public can check on their progress, and also see who is managing the works. We will periodically add photos to these project pages to show off our employees' hard work.

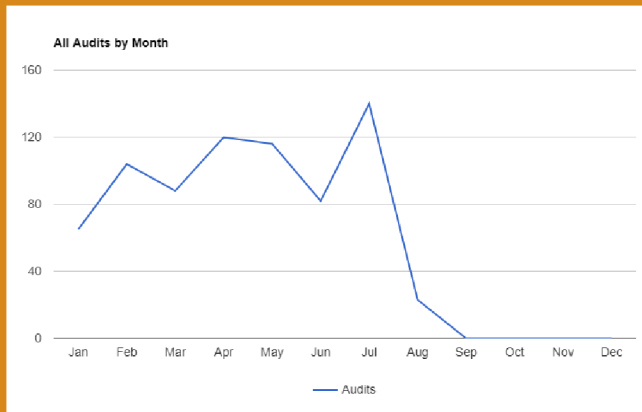
Behind the scenes I've added a full login system for employees to upload toolbox talks, posters, newsletters and photos for themselves and for projects. Anyone with a login will find all of these things very easy to use.

**-Tom Healy**



## PPE UPDATE

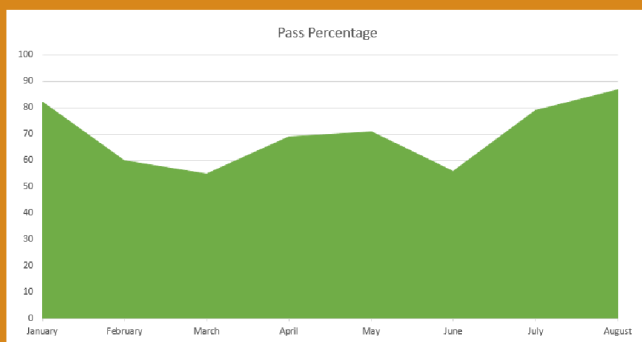
July 2017 saw the most audits completed in a month for the whole year- 140, when the next closest was 120 in April. This means an average of 4.5 audits were carried out every day of July.



As well as having the highest amount of audits, July saw the fail rate halve from June.

The quarter has seen 73 of our employees audited almost 300 times, by 12 of our auditors, for a pass rate of 73%.

As you can see from the below chart, the pass rate for PPE audits has steadily risen since our PPE auditing app was launched.



### BEST PERFORMERS FOR PPE AUDITS

After reviewing the pass rate for PPE Audits in 2017, we found that 35 of our operative have a 100% pass rate for audits carried out on them. Of these, two stand out; William Horn has been audited 27 times and passed every time, and Freddy March passed all 30 of his too.

This is a great achievement and we wish to congratulate them for their hard work and dedication to their Health & Safety.

## TOOLBOX TALKS

This month a Toolbox Talk about Smoking at Work was given by our Compliance & Safety Manager, Jolene Matthews.

### THE HEALTH ACT 2006

Since July 2007, smoking has been prohibited by law in the UK in all enclosed or substantially enclosed public places; this smoke-free legislation forms part of the Health Act 2006. Substantially enclosed is defined here as being premises and structures with a ceiling or roof, and where there are permanent openings which total to be less than half of the area of the walls, excluding windows and doors. By this definition, some bus shelters that are enclosed enough must be smoke free. This law also applies to workplace vehicles which are used by more than one person at any time.

### SIG'S SMOKING POLICY

As per the Standard Investment Group's Health and Safety Policy, all of our workplaces are smoke-free, and all employees have the right to work in a smoke-free environment. Smoking is prohibited in all workplaces under our control, including company vehicles, plant, and all outdoor work areas that have been segregated to form a working site. All staff are obliged to adhere to and support the implementations of the policy, and appropriate 'No Smoking' signs should be clearly displayed at the entrances to and within the premises, also in every company work vehicle.

### QUITTING SMOKING

Don't forget that smoking damages your health and puts you and others at increased risk of many illnesses such as lung cancer and emphysema. If you need help quitting, your GP can enrol you in a 'stop smoking' clinic, or even prescribe you nicotine replacement therapy such as patches and gum, or medication to help you stop.

For more information please visit:  
[www.smokefreeengland.co.uk](http://www.smokefreeengland.co.uk)

or contact Jolene Matthews at:  
[safety@carris-utility.co.uk](mailto:safety@carris-utility.co.uk)

# WEST HENDON PROJECT

The West Hendon HV project is split over two developments, the first being The Hyde for commercial and residential use located on Rookery Way. This project required a dual lay HV installation over approximately 1.1km, through the residential street of Rushgrove Avenue.

Due to there being several other projects within the local area, it was important to minimise the impact on residents by maintaining access to their driveways and preventing obstructions to street parking.

The Hyde installation route was also shared with Barrett London development, which required a dual lay HV installation. The DNO's required a minimum of 300mm separation. The Barrett London install is approx. 2.4km with 800m of this particular install taking place along Edgware Road, A5, which has required a strict timeframe with TFL with an agreed completion date of September 4th 2017.



Logistics have been key to completing this project on time, which we are pleased to say will be completed on the agreed date, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the excavation and reinstatement teams, alongside the internal support structure provided by CUS.

## EMPLOYEE INTERVIEW

This issue's interview is with our IT Facilities Designer, Tom Healy.

**Q: WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES/ WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR FREE TIME?**

A: I like gaming, programming, and listening to music.

**Q: IF YOU COULD BE ANY ANIMAL, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

A: A cat because they get to sleep all day.

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR PERFECT PIZZA?**

A: Barbecue chicken.

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR MOST USED EMOJI?**

A: The crying laughing face.

**Q: WHAT CHEERS YOU UP?**

A: My girlfriend, listening to music, and going out with friends.

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR MIDDLE NAME?**

A: Patrick.

**Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?**

A: My girlfriend and I have two cats, Dora and Kylo.

**Q: WHAT DO YOU ORDER AT A RESTAURANT YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN TO BEFORE?**

A: Some sort of chicken, or fajitas.

**Q: WHAT DID YOU DO FOR YOUR LAST BIRTHDAY?**

A: Went for a meal and saw the Book of Mormon. For this birthday I'm going to Cork, Ireland as my family is from there.

**Q: FAVOURITE CUISINE?**

A: I love Mexican food.

**Q: MOST RECENT MOVIE YOU SAW AT THE CINEMA?**

A: Dunkirk, it was really good.

**Q: WHERE DID YOU GO ON YOUR MOST RECENT HOLIDAY?**

A: I went to Lanzarote in June.

**Q: WHAT SONG DID YOU LAST CHOOSE TO LISTEN TO?**

A: One of the Killers' new songs. They're my favourite band.