



PR Newson

PR Newson has grown from a one-man band to a major arboricultural contractor. With support and advice from Woodfuel East the company has established a new woodfuel business which is providing contract chipping services and supplying woodfuel chips to customers across Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, including Stansted Airport and the Luton Hilton Hotel.

www.woodfueleast.org.uk
www.prnewsonltd.co.uk



01223 773072



woodfueleast@forestry.gsi.gov.uk



PR Newson

In 1987, PR Newson was a one-man operation specialising in tree surgery. Since then, the business has grown and in 2010 it established a wood fuel supply company. PR Newson provides a contract chipping service for other woodfuel suppliers and users and sells woodchips to a growing number of clients across Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, including Stansted Airport, the Luton Hilton Hotel, Colchester Garrison and several Essex schools.

His large stocks of roundwood come from a 15 mile radius, and are well seasoned (air dried) to ensure high quality with a low moisture content. Phil says that high quality chips are essential: "one business was about to give up on woodfuel because it bought woodchips that wouldn't burn. After trying low moisture chips from us, they changed their mind."

Phil was keen to develop the woodchip side of the business but his existing chipper was inefficient. It was also regularly tied up on arboricultural contracts, which restricted its availability for woodfuel. Phil Newson contacted Woodfuel East who worked with him on

assessing the viability of developing the woodfuel business, the equipment needed and the funding available. This resulted in Woodfuel East part-funding a refurbished Jenz chipper and Powerhand grab.

Phil Newson says that without the support of Woodfuel East he would not have been able to expand: "I would have given up on the whole thing, if it hadn't been for their support. They really understand the business."

The chipper's first job was at Santon Downham in Suffolk, where it created the commissioning load for a new woodfuel boiler which will provide heat and hot water for the offices used by the Forestry Commission. "This woodchip boiler was unusual in having well-thought out access and storage included in its design," says Phil. "People often don't consider where to put the chip store or the access needed for a large delivery lorry. Good access and storage – with good quality woodchips – are vital to a woodfuel boiler's success. It is worthwhile talking to a local woodfuel supplier at the early stages of planning the installation of a biomass boiler"

Technical Information

Jenz 561 chipper

This 490 hp, stand-alone drum chipper, fed by a 13 tonne excavator, can convert up to 40 tonnes of wood into boiler grade (G30 or G50) woodchip an hour. Made in Germany, the chipper weighs 15,500kg, but is still compact and manoeuvrable. It can chip whole trees up to 560 mm in diameter and light cuttings. The chipper is controlled remotely from the excavator for maximum flexibility and efficiency.

Powerhand CR350 Grab

This five-tine, 0.35 cubic metre grab, will feed roundwood into the chipper to ensure a quick chip rate. The grab is fitted to an excavator and used to feed the chipper.

Woodfuel East is supported under the Rural Development Programme for England by EEDA, Defra and the EU with additional support from the Forestry Commission.