

Trough-Tec Systems (A HIRD Group Company)

Trough-Tec Systems: Supplying Sustainability, Safety and Efficiency to the Trackside as Standard



TTS combined CMS and anti-slip walkway system

Trough-Tec Systems (TTS), part of the Hird Group of companies, prides itself on supplying the Green Trough product range, an environmentally friendly cable management system (CMS) manufactured from 100% recycled polymer. In addition to its core range of CMS products, and in response to clients' needs, TTS has consistently designed and introduced innovative products including an elevated system for Green Trough, composite replacement lids for existing concrete troughs, and safe, anti-slip walkways.

All products within the Green Trough range are manufactured from 100% recycled household waste, demand for which has increased year on year. Last year alone seven thousand tonnes (or 7 million kg) of household plastic were recycled globally to

manufacture Green Trough cable-management and anti-slip walkway systems. In consumer terms this equates to approximately 467,000,000 average water bottles. To help visualise this, the image below shows our colleagues Gary and Kyle holding 14kg of plastic



Team TTS demonstrating the amount of recycled plastic contained in each 200 series unit

between them – the amount of plastic that goes into every single unit of a **200 series trough**, its lightweight nature being demonstrated by Lucy.

Whilst the product’s sustainability credentials are arguably second to none, the boost in efficiency and safety that Green Trough offers should not be underestimated. Green Trough is much lighter than traditional cable management alternatives and offers many material advantages. As a result, installation times are reduced significantly and it is a much safer product to handle, weighing up to 80% less than the concrete alternative. This means less resource is needed on site, and the need for lifting and handling equipment is negated: all of this maximises the cost-efficiency of possessions or installation programmes. Even with less resource on site, many more units can be laid per hour, resulting in a much more cost-efficient possession cost per metre.

TTS is acutely aware however of the role it plays in contributing to the improvement of its clients’ value chain emissions, also referred to as Scope 3 emissions. TTS’s product range demonstrates benefit to a client’s up and downstream emissions, which ultimately contribute to the sector’s net zero targets. Having been awarded with ISO14001 in 2021, TTS is wholly committed to environmental sustainability. TTS’s already significant value add will increase further as localised manufacture is also on the group’s agenda.

Commenting on TTS’s progress, Gary Elliott (MD) states *“Our growth and reputation continue to encourage us but in parallel to we are committed to our environmental responsibilities and are moving ever closer to a real-world circular economy. We are working closely with our manufacturing and logistics partners to actively reduce the carbon footprint of the product. At the same time we are constantly scrutinising our wider supply chain and in-house production processes to ensure our operational emissions are being lowered. Sustainability and excellent customer service influence everything we do across the group, and by extension we are committed to helping our clients reduce the carbon footprint of the projects we support.”*

Trough-Tec Systems has become a trusted supplier to infrastructure projects, its products having been used across many major projects including Crossrail, the North West electrification programme, Transpennine Route Upgrade, Great Western electrification programme, Midland Main Line Upgrade and East West Rail.

Clients regularly vouch for the company and its products.

London Underground explains: *“Installing TTS troughing during midweek nights: [despite] limited time during midweek possession we managed to install a significant quantity in a safe and efficient manner.”*

TTS's products have an equally significant impact on the efficiency of major projects as well as time-constrained maintenance possessions. Client testimonials describe the product and its design as making work easy and efficient with undeniable benefits to a project's carbon footprint: *"On site, we have found the product really easy to work with... lightweight, adaptable, diverse in range with numerous supporting accessories, [its] capacity is proportionally improved over traditional trough route of equivalent size and is securable with the bolt-on lids. There have been many comments from staff on how the experience of walking lineside on the combined trough/walkway has improved. With*

excellent green credentials the product is a fantastic addition to the rail industry in the UK."

This commitment to sustainability and customer service excellence is shared by TTS with its sister companies, Hird Rail Development, Hird Rail Services and Hird Rail Development BV (operating in the Netherlands and Belgium). Across the group our mission is to provide high-quality, innovative and sustainable infrastructure products and services to the rail industry and beyond. From track infrastructure products, anti-trespass and suicide prevention and cable management and anti-slip walkway systems we mean green.

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Gary Elliot, Managing Director, HIRD Group

Check out our [YouTube channel](#).

For more information on any of the above please contact Lucy Prior, Business Growth Director:

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The Hird Group mission statement



Our mission is to provide high-quality, innovative and sustainable infrastructure products, to the UK rail industry and beyond.

#WeMeanGreen