



case study

Magnor Plant streamlines its operations and gets increased visibility of its assets, reducing costs and improving compliance

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Overview

Magnor Plant is the in-house plant and transport business that manages and maintains assets hired out to Morgan Sindall Infrastructure projects. Ultimately, they are responsible for keeping project costs down and ensuring that equipment going out to site is safe and compliant.

Its existing set up for tracking and managing these assets involved multiple standalone systems with processes that were largely paper based, which was causing major inefficiencies. Magnor Plant needed to work smarter, so they chose AssetTagz to automate the management, maintenance and on/off hiring of assets.

AssetTagz enables Magnor Plant to digitally track and manage assets efficiently and effectively. This means that they know where their assets are, what condition they are in and when they need to be inspected which increases asset up-hire time.

Ultimately, AssetTagz helps to ensure that Morgan Sindall Infrastructure's equipment budget stays on track, staff stay safe and the company stays compliant.

“Primarily, our focus was on traceability, improved management of our assets and efficiencies in processes and cost management. It has been challenging to keep track of asset locations and conditions.”

Dean Ellery, OHL equipment controller

Background

Magnor Plant is Morgan Sindall Infrastructure's in-house plant and transport business. Morgan Sindall Infrastructure delivers some of the UK's most complex and critical infrastructure across six core sectors of energy, water, nuclear, highways, rail and aviation for public and private customers.

As part of its role in supporting Morgan Sindall Infrastructure, Magnor Plant is responsible for the hire, management and safety of all overhead line (OHL) assets used within the energy sector.

At its plant and logistics depot at Swynnerton in Staffordshire, Magnor Plant manages and maintains a range of OHL equipment such as pull lifts, slings, chains and shackles, as well as various types of specialist equipment.

Morgan Sindall Infrastructure needed an accurate and efficient way to manage the on/off hiring and maintenance of assets.

A system that allows them to easily record and report on asset status, location, condition and certification. One that could, in the future, integrate with the ERP system, Coins.

The project

Magnor Plant's primary role is to manage and maintain assets for the on and off hiring of equipment to Morgan Sindall Infrastructure's projects.

The existing set up used multiple systems that didn't talk to each other and were largely paper based, which were causing inefficiencies in operations, as Dean Ellery, OHL equipment controller at Magnor Plant, explains: “We were reliant on different systems to support each aspect of our asset management process which could sometimes be prone to human error due to manual completion and being over reliant on spreadsheets. We also had limited traceability and recognised that we needed to invest in a new system that would not only make life easier, but could also streamline processes and bring cost saving benefits to the company.”



Safety and compliance are key

Another fundamental aspect of Magnor Plant's role is ensuring the safety and compliance of the equipment which it is providing to the Morgan Sindall Infrastructure business: Magnor Plant is responsible for ensuring that equipment going out to site is up to date with the appropriate safety checks and inspections and has been certified for use. All lifting equipment requires LOLER Thorough Exams and the High Voltage equipment requires regular earth resistance testing and check over tests.

Previously, the inspection process had also been paper-based and took a considerable number of resources to manage. Once the manual checks had taken place, there was then the arduous task of transferring onto spreadsheets and then filing the paper reports. This meant that, more often than not, Magnor Plant would send every item of equipment for an independent inspection to make sure it was compliant before it was dispatched to site, which was costly and inefficient.

The implementation

The AssetTagz project was signed off in March 2024 and by May 2024 the system was live and the first assets tagged and tracked. The project team, led by Dean Ellery, worked closely with the AssetTagz implementation team and the roll out was relatively quick and straightforward. This was due, in part, to Dean having used AssetTagz in a previous role and was aware of the kind of information that needed to be garnered. "We chose AssetTagz because it ticked all the boxes for what we were looking to achieve and the fact that it can integrate with our ERP system, Coins, for one view of the truth across our systems is an added bonus." says Dean.

In the first three months since going live, Magnor Plant carried out 5,893 inspections on just shy of 10,000 assets, all at the Swynnerton depot.

"AssetTagz makes sure we keep our equipment safe and fit for purpose."

"We needed to work smarter. We wanted to be able to carry out our checks and tests within our plant and logistics depot at Swynnerton, then be notified of faults as and when they occurred. That way we would get visibility of pre-planned maintenance and services so we could ensure all assets were ready and available for deployment."

Lee Davidson, Specialist Plant Manager



The results

Improved visibility and traceability to optimise up-hire time

AssetTagz enables Magnor Plant to digitally track assets and efficiently manage the process of on and off-hiring to sites. This means they easily know exactly where their assets are, what condition they are in and when they need to be inspected, optimising the availability of each piece of equipment.

More accurate & timely billing helps the bottom line

Being able to run reports at any given time makes it easy to accurately manage the hires and helps ensure that Morgan Sindall Infrastructure's equipment budget stays on track.

Time, resource and cost pressures alleviated

Magnor Plant has been able to significantly reduce the amount of hours required to manage the equipment, meaning the team can invest their time in further added-value activities.

Negating the need to use external inspection companies has reduced costs, and fewer 'lost' assets now need replacing.

Safety and compliance by design

Magnor Plant is now able to quickly and efficiently establish when their assets are due for inspection. Alerts for when faulty equipment is recorded mean that maintenance schedules can be better planned and managed. Every inspection certificate is now available to view on demand, further supporting compliance and auditing obligations.

The future

The next step will be to roll the system out to other areas within Magnor Plant. The team of fitters that manage, maintain and inspect Magnor Plant's owned equipment that includes tower lights, winches and tractors will be the next to come on board in 2025.

“AssetTagz was an easy decision to make. It is quick to implement and easy to use. All colleagues could see positive changes almost straight away.”

Cailey Cross, Finance Manager