



PTSG keeps PPG covered with lightning protection systems in Stowmarket





PPG is a global supplier of paints, coatings, optical products, speciality materials and fibre glass. It provides products to help customers in industrial, transportation, consumer products, and construction markets and aftermarkets worldwide.

PTSG's Electrical Services division completed a large earthing and lighting protection project at PPG's site in Stowmarket. The site required PTSG's engineers to demonstrate their full range of expertise across all disciplines; design, test, inspection, certification and repair of lighting protection and earthing systems, as well as static installation to the bung and tanker loading areas, and the production plane.

For this project emphasis was placed on collaboration from the beginning, with open discussions taking place between staff at all levels in both companies from the planning stage and throughout the lifecycle of the project. This helped PTSG develop an understanding of the site's unique health and safety requirements to keep the team safe, and also established shared goals for the project between both companies.

The project began with an initial site meeting with PTSG's Technical Director, John Warren, and PPG health and safety officers to develop a detailed strategy for completion of the contract to both companies' criteria. By aligning goals from the beginning, PTSG was able to ensure client satisfaction, taking into account considerations such as site-specific requirements, including works being carried out to the BS EN 62305 and NFC 17102 compliance standards, the potential for future development of the site and the requirement for a swift and smooth completion of the works.

It was also vital that the project complied with local legislation and the ISO standards PPG maintains. Throughout the project, Technical Director John Warren consulted with PPG, appraising the client with simple yet in-depth details of the changes and improvements made to the project's design, ensuring the contract was based on partnership working from beginning to end. These meetings were also hugely beneficial for PTSG, as the engineers who would be working on this site could gain a good understanding of how things were run.

This was essential as the plant was always operational, and the strong relationship between PPG and PTSG meant that engineers were well educated on the successful day-to-day operation of the site to avoid disrupting this in any way.

Following this successful delivery, additional works have since been scheduled, with PTSG's engineers attending site to extend and improve lighting protection systems throughout the site, and provide a surge protection package encompassing a number of different areas.