

- Akro Valve Established in 1983
- Specialist Valve Manufacturer and Distributor of Water Efficiency Equipment
- Small Family Company based in Polegate (o/s Eastbourne)
- I took over in 2017













- It all started with a GGP flyer on the doormat Help with Business Support and Grants available
- On site meeting to discuss plans / strategy for growth
- LoCASE application for Energy Efficiency improvements and new product development & to join ProfitNet Business Support Group

#### Grant 1

LED Lighting. Replacing fluorescent tubes with LED, throughout workshop and offices







#### **New Product Development**

A new flow control valve specifically for domestic water saving / hotel market



Retrofit valves to avoid costly tap replacement



15mm Top Hat Insert



22mm Top Hat Insert



#### **Hardware Upgrade**

Replaced old air compressor with new quieter and more efficient one



### Grant 2

- New CNC Machining Centre. High spec machine for manufacturing valves.
- Increased output, Increased quality, Reduced costs

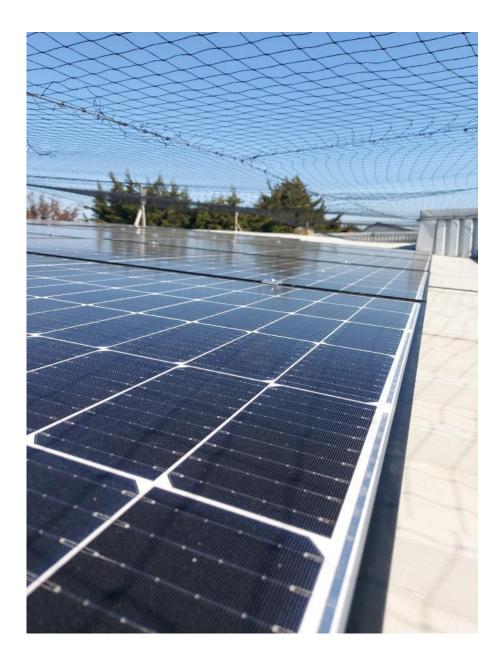






## **PV Solar Panels**

- 32 panels fitted to roof
- 10 kW capacity
- 10,000 kWh annual output
- Akro Valve annual energy usage 7,000 kWh
- But still have a large electricity bill
- Not always using whilst generating = lost energy
- No buy back of unused kW for private industry ?
- We are very green as we donate ~3000 kWh to the grid for free !



### **Marketing Services**

Hired a marketing company to try and promote Akro Valve products to new customers and industry sectors, but ....



"Well done! You've got another winner, Harry."





south east water



# **LoCASE Grants**

- The projects / activities / services were up to 30% funded by LoCASE
- Paperwork was not overwhelming
- 3 quotes required for each product / service
- Payment is upfront, OK for equipment but a bit risky with services (Marketing), you could end up with nothing.
- Reimbursement was prompt