

Greener company cars for Gorseinon firm

A forward-thinking Swansea firm is slashing its CO2 emissions by adding electric cars to its fleet.

Fforest Timber Engineering Ltd has introduced three electric Nissan Leaf vehicles to its Gorseinon-based business since the start of this year.

The first vehicle was added in March, followed swiftly by the second and third cars in April and May.

They were chosen after the firm, which specialises in timber frame construction and self-build services, began searching for alternatives to its diesel company cars.

Director Ian Davies said: "We had searched for alternatives and ended up looking at several electric cars.

"In the end we chose the Nissan Leafs as they are 100% electric, which is brilliant, and they offer great value for money.

"They are cheaper to run, easy to use, and nice to drive, we were pleasantly surprised with the results."

The Nissan Leaf, which has won numerous awards, can reach speeds of 90mph and travel up to 124 miles after a single charge.

Its fuel-efficient nature was of particular interest to Mr Davies as Fforest Timber has already adopted various green practices, including minimising water use, waste generated, and building materials.

He said: "The timber industry is inherently environmentally conscious so we were aware of the benefits that electric cars could bring.

"Adding these to our fleet increases the company's environmental credentials.

"The person who drove our third Leaf was very sceptical about electric vehicles however after driving it he says he'll never go back to diesel."

And it is not just the staff who have been impressed.

Mr Davies added: "We have had lots of interest in the cars from our clients, particularly the fact that they are electric. Our suppliers have also shown a lot of enthusiasm too."

Thanks to the soaring success of the three vehicles, Fforest Timber has installed a charging point at the office which is proving to be a major advantage for the company and its workers.

Mr Davies said: "It makes a huge difference when you are aren't constantly visiting the garage. It helps us to save money and is far less time consuming.

Dealer Principal at Bassett's Nissan Ian Morgan, who sold the Leafs to Mr Davies, said: "It was a pleasure to deal with



Overall having the electric cars offers a better driving experience. We are very pleased with our choice and feel it is a good investment for us and for the future.



Mr Davies and Fforest Timber, Ian had done a massive amount of research into alternative fuel vehicles which has allowed their business to be more eco-friendly.

"After test driving a few cars they chose the Nissan Leaf as it was the best prospect for them.

"At first they purchased one to see how it would fit in with their business, but since March they have purchased another two Leafs which is great news for them and shows electric cars can be a viable alternative to petrol and diesel vehicles."

"All the team from Bassett's Nissan would like to say it is a privilege to have set up an alliance with this reputable local firm and we look forward to continuing that relationship in the future."

