



The Solids Handling & Processing Association (SHAPA) has indeed achieved significant milestones over its four-decade journey, evolving from a modest beginning in 1981 with just seven companies to a robust network of over 100 organisations dedicated to advancing solutions in solids and bulk handling. As SHAPA reflects on the past achievements, it is essential to acknowledge the collective efforts that have propelled the organisation to its current standing as an industry leader.

While it may be tempting for organisations to become inwardly focused as they grow, SHAPA has consistently stayed true to its core purpose and mission. Beyond solely existing for the benefit and development of its members, SHAPA has distinguished itself by embodying a broader vision that encompasses driving positive change within the industry and fostering innovation that addresses key challenges such as energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

One of the key pillars of SHAPA's success lies in its proactive approach to embracing change and driving development. In a time where global awareness of climate change is at an all-time high, SHAPA and its members have not rested on their laurels they have remained steadfast in their commitment to advancing solutions that mitigate environmental impact, reduce energy consumption, and lower carbon emissions.

A notable initiative that exemplifies SHAPA's forward-thinking approach is the development of the Total Cost of Ownership paper, which serves as a valuable resource for stakeholders to evaluate equipment based on its entire lifecycle value rather than just the upfront cost. By promoting a comprehensive assessment framework, SHAPA empowers decision-makers to make informed choices that prioritise long-term sustainability and efficiency.

Moreover, SHAPA members have demonstrated a strong commitment to sustainable practices not only in serving customers but also in optimizing their own manufacturing processes. Initiatives such as implementing air recovery systems, harnessing solar and wind power, reducing water consumption, and engaging in carbon offsetting measures underscore the industry's dedication to environmental responsibility.

In addition to internal sustainability efforts, SHAPA has taken proactive steps to reduce its own carbon footprint by promoting initiatives such as virtual conferencing and advocating for green practices among its members. By championing sustainability and recognising excellence in this area through initiatives like the Sustainability category in the Solids Handling Industry Awards, SHAPA is fostering a culture of environmental stewardship within the industry.

In conclusion, SHAPA's resilience and longevity in the face of growth, economic fluctuations, and regulatory changes can be attributed to its unwavering commitment to innovation, sustainability, and industry leadership. By staying at the forefront of positive change and



prioritising environmental responsibility, SHAPA continues to set a commendable example for the industry at large.

Visit [www.shapa.co.uk](http://www.shapa.co.uk) or email [info@shapa.co.uk](mailto:info@shapa.co.uk) for further information and help and also to find out the benefits of SHAPA membership, joining together with acknowledged industry experts and suppliers who come together to combine their skills and knowledge to offer long-term peace of mind to plant owners and operators allowing them to select the right equipment for their installation.