

Corruption prevention guidance to Water Fuel Engineering

UK
Business Integrity
Consultancy Services
case study

THE COMPANY

Water Fuel Engineering is a micro UK engineering company. Established in 2013, it develops clean technologies that work alongside traditional fuels to reduce costs and environment impact.

THE GUIDANCE REQUEST

In 2018, WFE entered the Indian market with the view to selling its fuel- and emissions-saving technologies to state-owned bus companies. One prospective client asked to subject the technologies to a period of testing. Alongside logistical and administrative challenges, the company faced some difficult issues for the first time.

WFE turned to the UK government's Business Integrity Consultancy Service, as implemented by the Basel Institute on Governance, for help with the following:

- What to do if confronted with potential requests for facilitation payments or other forms of corruption?
- What kind of due diligence to conduct on business partners and local agents?
- How to build resilience to bribery and corruption without dedicated resources for compliance?

HOW THE BUSINESS INTEGRITY CONSULTANCY SERVICES HELPED

- ✓ The Basel Institute applied a **tailored approach** to identify the specific needs of WFE's current and future operations on the Indian subcontinent.
- ✓ The Basel Institute conducted thorough **research on bribery and facilitation payment challenges** in India, including seeking advice from experts and business associations within the Basel Institute's network.
- ✓ The Basel Institute helped WFE to create a simple yet powerful **ethics statement**, or code of ethics and compliance, setting out the company's standards of integrity, transparency and honesty.
- ✓ The Basel Institute provided guidance on conducting **risk-based due diligence** to help WFE evaluate and mitigate the business and integrity risks of potential business partners and agents.

“ We want our unique HydroGen™ technology to be available to customers in all parts of the world – and we want our business dealings to remain as clean as our technology. With the Basel Institute's guidance, we have been able to clarify our ethical standards internally and communicate them clearly to our customers.

– Phill Davies, CEO of Water Fuel Engineering

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