



Workplace Charging Case Study: Ethical Bean Coffee

Ethical Bean Coffee is a leading Vancouver-based roaster of 100% Fairtrade certified organic coffee. The company employs approximately 30 staff out of its Vancouver head office and roastery.

Charging Infrastructure

Ethical Bean Coffee installed two, Level 2 chargers in 2013. As part of that work, they made sure to “future-proof” the project by adding oversized conduit and electrical panel space to allow for easy expansion.

As tenants of a leased building, Ethical Bean had to make arrangements to pay for the charger installation independently. The building owner worked with them to make the installation easier, however the capital investment was borne entirely by Ethical Bean.

The company offers free parking for employees, as well as complimentary coffee for customers that visit the shop and charge their vehicles. The chargers are freely available Monday – Friday between the hours of 7 am

and 6 pm. A gate prevents access outside of these hours.

Management Program

As the installation is small scale, the chargers are managed by employees and no official administrative procedure is in place. To date there has been little to no issues related to using the charging infrastructure.



As there is limited parking in the office complex lot, the EV charging spaces are sometimes occupied by regular vehicles. Occasionally they have to move their cars to allow someone to come in and use the charger. The two charging stations can be accessed from four different parking spaces.

Currently two Ethical Bean employees commute to work using EVs. There are also a few other employees in the same office complex that also use the chargers on a regular basis.

Motivators

Installation of EV chargers is a part of Ethical Bean’s broader mission to promote sustainability and run an environmentally-conscious business. Reduction of overall corporate greenhouse gas emissions was also a key driver for this initiative.

Cost of EVSE Installation

This project cost Ethical Bean \$7,000 for purchase and installation of the equipment. With the future-proofing in place, the next two installations will be less expensive.

To learn more about Ethical Bean’s Workplace Charging Program please contact:

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