



CMP sprints for green energy opportunities

Within a year, Newcastle-based CMP Products secured both Fit For Nuclear and Fit For Offshore Renewables status to help expand its presence in key low-carbon sectors. QHSE director Francisco Dominguez talks about the company's journey.

CMP Products is a leading manufacturer of cable glands, cable cleats and associated accessories. We have achieved F4N status in just three months, and F4OR status in 10 months – processes which are expected to take 18-24 months per programme.

We achieved F4N granted status in April 2021. The company underwent a number of audits and assessments, carried out by our industrial advisor Nigel Goodrich. These focused on areas such as process excellence, covering the likes of quality, strategy and leadership, as well as health and safety, environmental sustainability, and research and development.

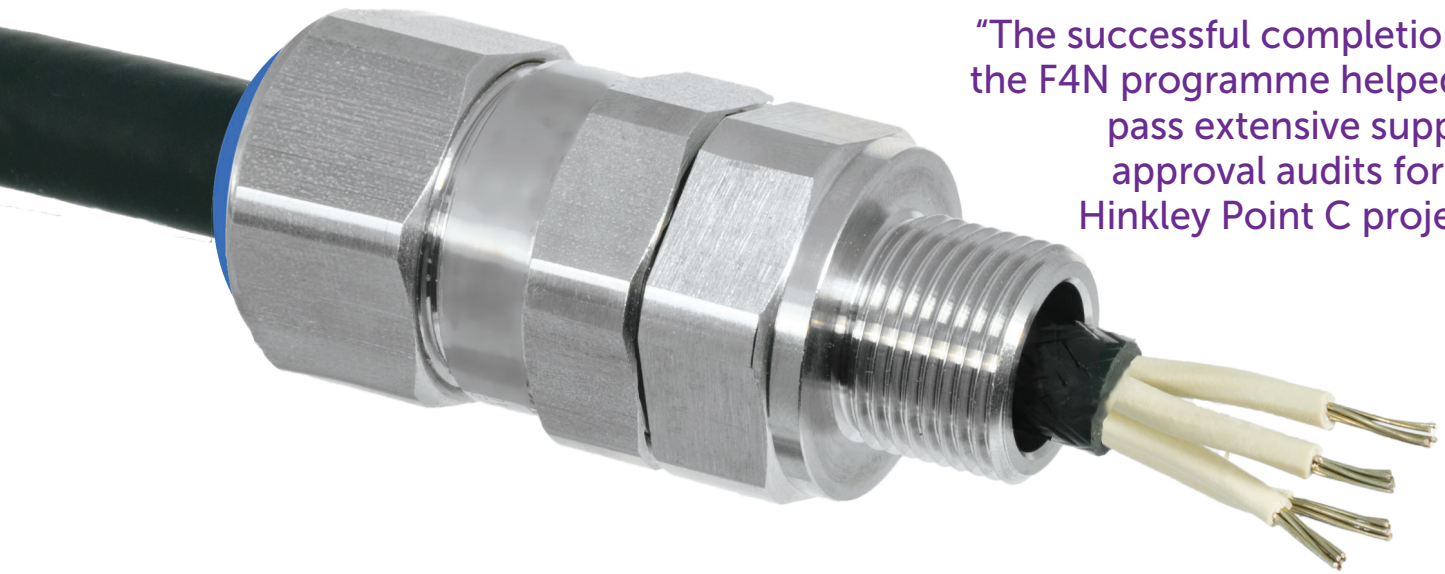
From these audits and assessments, an action list was created. Some areas were earmarked for improvement such as our knowledge of the nuclear industry. To tackle this, we developed a bespoke in-house training programme and delivered it to staff across key areas in the business. Alongside

this, we developed a nuclear safety policy and communicated it to all employees working in the organisation, as well as interested parties.

A strong integrated management system (IMS), driven by an engaged leadership team, allowed us to progress through the process quickly, as a lot of the criteria for both the audits and assessments was covered in the IMS. This was reflected in the F4N on-site systems audit, where we scored 99.5 per cent.

The successful completion of the F4N programme helped us pass extensive supplier approval audits carried out by MEH Alliance for the Hinkley Point C project, to which we are supplying a combination of cable glands and cable cleats.

We have since increased our presence within the nuclear sector at events such as the World Nuclear Exhibition in Paris, and the Nuclear Manufacturing Summit held by the Nuclear AMRC in Rotherham.



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Not long after achieving F4N granted status, CMP embarked on the F4OR programme as we were also looking to expand our presence within the offshore renewable market sector. Having already taken part in F4N, the initial process was very similar and ultimately prepared us well for F4OR.

Similarly to the F4N programme, we were subjected to business excellence audits and assessments with Nigel Goodrich. We were able to demonstrate the high level of process excellence in the organisation, and completed this stage of the program by June 2021.

CMP was then introduced to our F4OR sector-specific advisor, John Best. Working on contract from business consultancy Opergy, John gave us great support and encouragement throughout the second stage of the F4OR programme and the sector-specific assessments.

The assessments identified that CMP had more experience of supply and were much more familiar with the nuclear sector, but had less knowledge and experience of the offshore renewable sector. We embarked on the F4OR cohort journey to help develop our understanding of the sector, which involved 15 workshop modules. These modules covered areas such as an overview of the offshore renewables sector, HSEQ, supply chain, contracting, innovation and marketing. One module the team found particularly engaging was the virtual tour of the 7MV Levenmouth wind turbine.

Throughout the F4OR programme, we worked to increase our presence within the offshore renewables sector, attending events and visiting the ORE Catapult in Blyth. We presented at the Offshore Wind North East event in October 2021, focusing

on multiphysics finite element analysis and how this can simulate the effects of short circuit currents in cable installations to save cost and time on future projects.

As a result of the F4N and F4OR programmes, we have developed a nuclear safety culture, increased our knowledge as a company of both nuclear and offshore renewables industries, and increased connections in the offshore renewables sector.

We hope the programmes will increase our project wins within the nuclear and offshore renewables sectors, as the granted status demonstrates that we are truly fit for these demanding markets.

We are currently developing our sales and marketing strategy to identify global opportunities within nuclear and offshore renewables, using the knowledge gained as part of the F4N and F4OR programmes.

There is a clear need for our company to effectively manage the transition from a previous emphasis on the oil and gas industry, as green energy is important to reducing climate change.

We are committed to supplying greener energy projects, and have developed our own net-zero strategy, committing to achieving net-zero emissions by 2040. We are currently working towards being certified to the ISO 15001:2018 for energy management systems which is planned to be achieved by August 2022.


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