

CASE STUDY – WATER TREATMENT COMPANY

This is a water treatment company that we have provided support for in terms of their R&D tax claim.

They have developed a series of processes in their hydro chemicals team and tailored these to their clients in order to provide safer and more efficient alternatives to existing products. The water treatment company are specialist in their area.

The main project was conceived and tested at length prior to being implemented as a trial at two sites. This allowed the business to understand the challenges it faced in situ. Looking for solutions in water treatment involves dealing with problems associated with bacteria and poor quality. Public safety is obviously a high priority.



The trials were successful and provided data to be able to scale up the project. And this is where uncertainties can often occur. The water treatment company had to understand the way that the products worked on a larger scale every time they increased their operations. There were challenges, but these were overcome by crunching data and conducting research.



One of the criteria for the government in terms of R&D tax credits is to explain how the business overcame uncertainty. This is a vital explanation that needs to be concise yet complete. We know what the tax man is looking for here and collate the data to secure the cash injection from the HMRC.

The company had set out to develop safer and more efficient solutions than were available before. This took a lot of thinking, research and

development. It was not known at the outset whether these goals could be achieved. It is this kind of uncertainty that makes the water treatment company the ideal candidate for an R&D tax claim.

They had to keep legislation at the forefront of their thinking when developing new ways of treating water.

The actions of the water treatment company felt like a natural extension of what they were already doing. But the fact that they were coming up with new processes and products meant they were eligible for a claim. It isn't just new products that can be part of a qualifying claim.

Many people think that R&D tax credits is just for engineering or manufacturing companies and this isn't the case at all.

The water treatment company now make R&D tax claims a part of their business plan every year as they understand the system.

They have built up a knowledge of their industry over the years and are able to apply this knowledge in new areas of research. Having a new way of working has increased the knowledge of the entire industry and sets the business apart from their competition.

The knowledge was not in the public domain before, so the water treatment company had to work out how to make all of this happen. It is pleasing that they were able to improve safety and save money with their new processes and products.

