

Case Study The Range x InRange



Summary

- Location: UK Wide
- Capacity: 40 Megawatts
- **Type:** Solar PV on retail stores & distribution warehouses
- **Developer:** InRange with their partner EPCs
- **Owner:** The Range and their landlords
- Panel type: Varies by building
- **Completion date:** Ashford site operational in Nov 2023, additional rollout ongoing

InRange is streamlining the entire renewable energy procurement process, unlocking new revenue streams for landlords and saving energy costs for tenants. The InRange platform provides guaranteed 10-year fixed export tariffs, with AI-powered matching of surplus energy to data centre and other in-network building demand through the InRange Marketplace.

Overview

The Range is the fastest growing retailer in the UK, with over 200 stores across the UK, with over 140,000 products across 16 different departments. The Range is publicly committed to achieving the highest standard of environmental performance, recognising its corporate responsibility to the environment.

In 2023, The Range and InRange began to embark on their ambitious joint plan to turn 4.2 million square feet of The Range's warehouse rooftop space into a 40 MW power plant network.

The Range has been committed to reducing their operational carbon footprint, while hedging against the volatile energy market. On-site solar presents a great opportunity to achieve both. Working together beyond just on-site generation for self-consumption, the Range's solar installations are up-sized to generate maximum power. The surplus generation from each of their warehouses is then supplied within the InRange network: Not only to nearby large energy buyers, but also to other The Range sites that have unmet energy needs.



Project Summary

As The Range had specific cost savings goals, they relied on InRange's AI-powered automation platform to remotely assess their portfolio and identify the highest priority buildings on which to install the 40 MW. The platform's forecasting of generation and demand, alongside assessment of grid connectivity potential, was used to de-risk roll-out up front. The selected sites included buildings owned and occupied by The Range, as well as buildings where they are the on-site tenant. For The Range's tenanted buildings, InRange established relationships with the relevant owners for speedy rollout. The Range was able to sign a single PPA which could be repeated across their portfolio of sites across landlords.

By disrupting every facet of the energy enablement journey, InRange slashed time and costs across the board by at least 25%, and the first Range site generated electrons within only 8 months.

For that first rolled out store in Ashford, InRange brought in one of their EPC partners Photon Energy to execute the installation. The 328 kW system was installed in only 6 weeks, with 790 Sharp 415W solar panels. InRange is providing ongoing operations, monitoring, and maintenance for the lifetime of Ashford as well as the portfolio of The Range installations as part of their end to end solution.



Outcomes

Working with The Range beyond just on-site generation for self-consumption, their solar installations are up-sized to generate maximum power. The surplus generation from each of their warehouses is then supplied within the InRange network: Not only to nearby large energy buyers, but also to other The Range sites that have unmet energy needs.

By participating in the InRange network, The Range has been able to sell surplus generation to large energy buyers and unlock more value, faster, from every square foot of warehouse space than with any other partner. This strategy is expected to shrink electricity bills across the portfolio by at least 25%, while connecting those large energy buyers with a new energy asset supplier.

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For sites where The Range is also the owner as well as the occupier, they have been able to enjoy not only savings across their electricity bills, but also a new revenue stream from the sold excess energy.

Rollout is ongoing, with more stores and distribution warehouses due to be constructed. As The Range's ambitious store expansion scheme continues, InRange will continue to support them in ensuring that their successful partnership continues into the future for additional sites, and additional savings.

Local Benefit

As the UK's largest retailer, The Range's current and future stores and distribution centres will consume on-site generated solar energy, reducing reliance and congestion on their local grids. They also reduce their operational carbon footprint, while still providing essential services to the local area. The excess energy they generate and export to the InRange network further reduces overall operational carbon footprint to the energy off-takers.

Community Benefit

By reducing congestion and providing clean energy to the local grid, The Range is able to help drive down energy costs within their community, while continuing to create jobs and provide valuable services.



Learn more about what's happening at InRange at www.inrange.io



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