Waste shredding specialist UNTHA UK has once again demonstrated its unswerving commitment to quality, environmental and health and safety management, by passing its ISO recertification audit with flying colours.

In March 2014 it was announced that the North Yorkshire team of waste and recycling experts had scooped a hat-trick of highly respected accreditations – ISO9001 (quality), ISO14001 (environmental) and OHSAS18001 (health and safety). At the time, lead auditor Shane Horsfield commented: “The Company is very customer focused and there is suitable evidence in place to support the management team’s commitment to continually improve as a result of business changes, client reviews, feedback from customers and analysis of service level performance."

In the wake of the news, managing director Chris Oldfield pledged that the certifications would form the very minimum standards that UNTHA UK would uphold on a daily basis, and would provide a benchmark for continuous improvement moving forward.

That continuous improvement was put to the test last month when the auditors returned for UNTHA's first re-inspection. Once again the company's processes, paperwork, culture, knowledge and operating performance were placed under the spotlight. Factors such as the team's management of installations, service delivery, product development, stock control, personnel progression, waste reduction, and health and safety coordination were scrutinsed, to ensure ongoing progress was being made.

And the exercise couldn’t have gone any better, with no major or minor suggestions for improvement advised. Upon completing his assessment, Shane Horsfield elaborated: “The Company has laid the foundation for a comprehensive, successful, well implemented and controlled system, with the foundations to incorporate an integrated health/safety, quality management and environmental system to support the overall development of the business.”

UNTHA UK’s ISO coordinator Anne Mattison has spearheaded the project since the organisation’s efforts began last year. Commenting on the recertification news, she said: “It goes without saying that this most recent achievement is a huge credit to the whole team. From the engineers in our warehouse, through to our senior management team, we now see an unshakable commitment to quality, the environment, and health and safety. This has provided our company with fantastic structure during a period of growth, and will guide our ongoing

improvement as our organisation continues to evolve.

“I sincerely believe it has given us a competitive advantage too. So many of our unique selling points (USPs) are now evidenced, which opens the door to much higher profile projects that we know we can add value to. It also gives clients greater confidence in our ability as they know our approach to business has already been so rigorously examined.”

To be sure of retaining its three ISO accreditations, UNTHA UK will undergo further annual re-inspection audits until 2017. However, as Anne explains, there is a lot to do in the meantime. “I carry out my own mini ISO audits every quarter, to ensure we remain on track and continue to push ourselves,” she said. “This isn’t a case of standing still.

“We now have a ‘what’s next?’ philosophy, which of course translates into fantastic benefits for our customers and employees. We’ll therefore celebrate this most recent success, before swiftly focusing on our progress towards the next ISO milestone.”