



7-Steel UK

Empowering real-time industrial energy management

inControl

7-Steel UK: Real-time data delivering real-world results

inControl and 7-Steel UK at the Forefront of Industrial Digital Transformation

When it comes to industrial energy efficiency, real-time visibility is everything. Traditional reporting cycles — often quarterly or monthly — simply can't keep pace with the fast-changing realities of modern manufacturing, where energy costs and production demands fluctuate hour by hour.

That's the challenge 7-Steel UK, one of the country's leading producers of low-carbon, circular steel, set out to solve. Working alongside inControl Systems and Rockwell Automation, they are implementing a digital energy management solution designed to turn raw energy data into actionable insight — helping the company make smarter, faster decisions to drive efficiency and sustainability.

The Challenge

Energy is a significant cost driver in steel production, but until recently, 7-Steel's consumption data was aggregated into a single top-level figure that took time to produce and offered little operational granularity. Without near-real-time data, the business couldn't easily pinpoint inefficiencies, compare loads across departments, or identify high-usage processes that could be optimised. The result was a lag between energy consumption, bill reporting, and operational decision-making — limiting cost optimisation and sustainability progress.

The Approach

inControl partnered with Rockwell Automation to deploy FactoryTalk® Energy Manager™ (FTEM) — a centralised energy management system connecting data from across 7-Steel's operations. The system enables real-time reporting, alarm threshold monitoring, and energy intensity metrics that highlight where improvements can be made.

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— Graham Jennings,
Digital Solutions Director, inControl Systems

By combining connected energy and process data, 7-Steel can now make data-driven decisions — such as shifting energy-intensive operations to off-peak hours or identifying high-usage ‘hot spots’ for investigation.

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— Graham Jennings, Digital Solutions Director, inControl Systems

The Results

It’s early days, but the project has already delivered measurable progress toward a smarter, more sustainable operation:

- Support for ISO 50001 certification, aligning energy management with international standards
- Real-time energy data now available across main loads, with sub-system expansion underway
- Identification of energy-intensive operations and peak loads for targeted action
- Creation of energy intensity metrics to pinpoint inefficiencies
- Faster, more accurate reporting to verify billing and sustainability targets

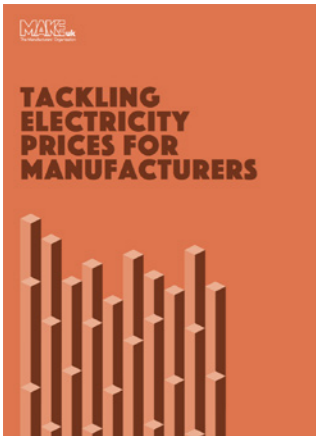
A Broader Impact

Beyond 7-Steel, this collaboration reflects a growing movement in UK manufacturing toward connected operations, predictive analytics, and sustainable performance. With UK electricity prices remaining 46% higher than the international average (Make UK, 2025), real-time visibility is becoming a core competitive advantage. inControl Systems continues to work with partners across industries to embed resilience, efficiency, and sustainability through connected technologies ■

“Since first engaging with inControl, they’ve helped guide 7-Steel to meet ever-increasing ESG demands. With FactoryTalk® Energy Manager™, we now have clear insights to make high-impact cost decisions at the lowest risk. We’re excited to grow the platform with inControl and Rockwell Automation”

Aaron McGovern, Project Engineer, 7-Steel





Make UK's recent report carries an important message to industry

Rising Energy Costs for UK Manufacturers

The challenge facing 7-Steel is not unique. Across the UK, manufacturers are grappling with some of the highest electricity prices in the developed world.

According to Make UK's 2025 report "Tackling Electricity Prices for Manufacturers", UK industrial electricity prices remain 46% higher than the international average, with domestic steel producers paying around £66/MWh, compared to £50/MWh in Germany and £43/MWh in France.

Make UK warns that without urgent reform, "UK manufacturing competitiveness and investment will be at risk," highlighting the need for smarter energy management and transparent, real-time data across operations.

That's exactly where inControl Systems is helping companies like 7-Steel. By enabling access to live energy-usage data—rather than quarterly summaries—7-Steel can now make day-to-day decisions that drive real efficiency gains and cost reductions. As energy remains one of the largest operational costs for British manufacturers, this kind of insight is becoming essential to staying competitive.

[Read the full Make UK report here: Tackling Electricity Prices for Manufacturers – Make UK \(June 2025\)](#)



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7 Steel UK, acquired in 2025 by Sev.en Global Investments, is one of the nation's foremost producers of low-carbon, circular steel. Operating from a state-of-the-art facility in Cardiff, the company transforms UK-sourced scrap into high-quality steel products for key infrastructure, energy, and construction projects across the UK and Ireland.

Its Electric Arc Furnace technology enables up to 80% lower CO² emissions compared to traditional methods, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable manufacturing. With three core divisions — Manufacturing, Service, and Recycling — 7 Steel UK produces up to 1.2 million tonnes of crude steel annually, recycles over one million tonnes of scrap, and generates 1,700 direct jobs through its growing circular economy model.

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