

Proserv CEO urges industry partners to support mental health campaign

Davis Larssen asks energy sector to back a charity drive to spread awareness and raise funds for leading UK charities.

The CEO of global controls technology company Proserv, Davis Larssen, has called on fellow industry stakeholders to support his team's mental health charity initiative featuring a 600-mile cycle ride this summer.

Proserv and its technology partner, Synaptec, a Glasgow based power system monitoring specialist, have come together to form a team of more than 30 cyclists to ride 600 miles in six days this June. The group will set out from Proserv's HQ in Westhill, Aberdeen on June 7th, arriving at its Controls Centre of Excellence in Great Yarmouth on June 12th.

The goal of 600 Miles for Minds is to raise a target of £100,000 to be shared between leading UK mental health charities and Larssen himself will be in the saddle to contribute to the fund-raising effort.

The idea was conceived by Bradley Savoldelli, one of Proserv's team based at Greenbank in Aberdeen, and Larssen says the aim was to devise an event that would capture the imagination and encourage donations for a subject needing wider attention and awareness.

Larssen said: "Many individuals and families live with the impacts of mental health anxieties every day – they can be hugely debilitating and particularly when there is no support available, in the worst case scenario, can lead to tragic yet often completely avoidable outcomes."

Simon Harvey, the company's Vice President, QHSE, is another taking part and he believes bringing awareness to mental wellbeing and encouraging discussion is fundamental to Proserv's campaign.

Harvey said: "We first established support frameworks in the UK some years ago and have extended this around our entire global business. The phrase 'it's okay to not be okay' is absolutely right and people must reach out when they feel troubled or under stress."

Larssen stated the past few years, with COVID-19 and the economic landscape, have challenged people across the UK, and beyond, and he thinks the energy industry can create an extra level of anxiety for those working within it.

Larssen said: "Our sector has typically been one where there can be volatility and uncertainty, while individuals are often working far away from home and their familiar support networks."

"Collectively as an industry, we have a responsibility to do what we can to safeguard the mental wellbeing of our talented teams around the globe. So, we are openly asking energy sector colleagues, partners and stakeholders to come forward, engage with and help our initiative to underline the critical need to support positive mental health in our workforce."

To find out more about Proserv's fundraising campaign, please visit the company's social media channels or website.

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Morris Kelly, Synaptec, a member of the charity cycling team out training



From left to right: Simon Harvey, VP, QHSE, Proserv
Davis Larssen CEO, Proserv and Bradley Savoldelli