

€coCert

Membership Newsletter, Summer 2013

EcoCert Members Just Keep on Improving

✓ 12% lower carbon emissions

✓ 5,132 tonnes of carbon saved

✓ €5,774 annual savings per site



The latest annual results achieved by EcoCert member companies have been compiled.

The 65 companies achieving EcoCert certification to date have logged initial average savings of €5,774 per year in their energy, waste and water costs.

The 29 companies which logged full annual energy performances achieved a 12% reduction in their carbon emissions – saving 5,132 tonnes in total.

This compares with a 2,400 tonne saving logged by the first 18 companies the previous year.

“This shows that EcoCert members don’t rest on their laurels after making initial improvements. They go on to seek and deliver further improvements and savings, year-on-year” said Phil Walker of Econcertive. *“This is great to see, because continuous improvement is exactly what EcoCert is designed to support.”*

EcoCert companies save money, reduce their environmental impact and get recognition for their efforts. A win-win situation for all of us.

Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown **IMI EcoCert Award**



Bronagh Moore Campus Director, The Irish Management Institute receiving their EcoCert Certificate from An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Tom Joyce and Mr Kieron Phillips, Programme Manager, Environmental Protection Agency.

€coCert is a service provided by €concertive supported by The Environmental Protection Agency, Waterford County Council, Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council, Cork County Council and Dublin City Council.

Service Improvements for 2013



Econcertive is intent on developing and improving the EcoCert service – by listening to you, our members, and by learning from the experience of running the programme.

With this in mind, the following improvements to the certification service have been approved by the EcoCert Steering Group.

The new rules

- **Smaller sites with proven track records can change from annual to bi-annual surveillance visits.** After all, there are only so many times you can usefully count the same lightbulbs! In these cases, the maintenance fee will only be charged every second year, giving better value for money.
- **Members will be asked to submit their performance records at the end of each calendar year instead of waiting for the next surveillance visit.** This will allow our reporting statistics to be made more current.
- **A new certification requirement will be for the organisation to provide evidence that energy monitoring (e.g. meter reading) has commenced.** This is designed to address the most common failing found during first surveillance.
- **A new certification requirement will be for the location of the water stop-cock to be known - and accessible.** This is a common problem, where simple preparation can avoid major damage in the event of a burst pipe.

If you have suggestions for further improvements, or any views on these ones, please let us know.

Dublin and Cork join EcoCert



The 2013 EcoCert programme sees the arrival of two important new partner organisations, Dublin City Council and Cork County Council.



The EcoCert steering group welcomes its new members Mark Bennett from Dublin City Council and Dr. Mary Stack from Cork County Council.

They join the ongoing project partners Keiron Phillips from the EPA, Anne Sullivan from Waterford County Council and Margaret Coles from Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council.

2013 SEAI Grant Application

Following the success of their pilot programme in 2012, SEAI have extended their 'Better Energy Communities' grant scheme in 2013.

Last year five EcoCert members, supported by Econcertive, received grants totalling €81,000.

This year a further five EcoCert members have applied for grant support, again making use of their membership of the EcoCert community, and the expertise of Econcertive, to make it happen. We are all hoping for a similar level of success.

If you have an energy-saving capital project in mind, there is every likelihood of the scheme being repeated in 2014. Now is the time to start planning. Contact Econcertive for further information.



For more **EcoCert** information or to contribute to future newsletters, contact Phil Walker, **Econcertive**.

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