

€coCert

Membership Newsletter, Winter 2012/2013

EcoCert Members Awarded €81,000 from SEAI

Econcertive have successfully co-ordinated a grant application for five EcoCert members with the SEAI 'Better Energy Communities' pilot scheme.

The initial approach to the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (in July 2012) was positively received and EcoCert members were invited to apply for grant support on energy-saving projects. In the event, every EcoCert applicant was offered grant support, and a total of €81,000 has been paid out to the five recipients.

- ❖ **Byrnes of Bree** for new refrigeration and lighting.
- ❖ **Wexford Arts Centre** for new lighting & controls.
- ❖ **Waterford Institute of Technology** LED lighting.
- ❖ **Glenisk** for refrigeration and pipework insulation.
- ❖ **Imaginosity** (Dublin Childrens' Museum) for LED lighting.

SEAI were delighted with their experience of working with EcoCert and will welcome further applications when they hope to repeat the scheme in 2013.



New fridge units and lighting at the Byrnes of Bree store

EcoCert Award for Amgen



Leading international pharmaceutical company Amgen recently received an EcoCert for their major production facility in Pottery Road, Dun Laoghaire.

While engaging in a major expansion on the site, Amgen are actively pursuing continuous improvement in their own environmental performance. In 2013, Amgen plan to use EcoCert to help encourage their Irish supply chain to do likewise.

L to R above: Kieron Phillips, Green Business Project Manager, EPA; Eleanor Garvey, Vice President Site Operations & Site Leader, Amgen; An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Tom Joyce of Dun Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council; Helena Mulvihill and Tony Carter, Environmental Health & Safety Amgen.

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

Stillorgan Shopping Centre



Stillorgan Shopping Centre has over fifty retail outlets including a supermarket, restaurants, food hall, fashion retailers and services providers.

The Centre decided to adopt EcoCert in early 2011 as a means of improving its environmental performance and reducing operating costs. An Improvement Plan was developed for a range of energy, water and waste reduction actions.

Centre Manager Ray Coary explains how water management emerged as the biggest area for improvement, and achieving cost savings.

Water

The Shopping Centre has a bulk water meter for the water supply to the whole site and sub-meters in the individual retail outlets. With the help of our EcoCert advisor we analysed our water bills and identified a significant amount of unexplained water use.

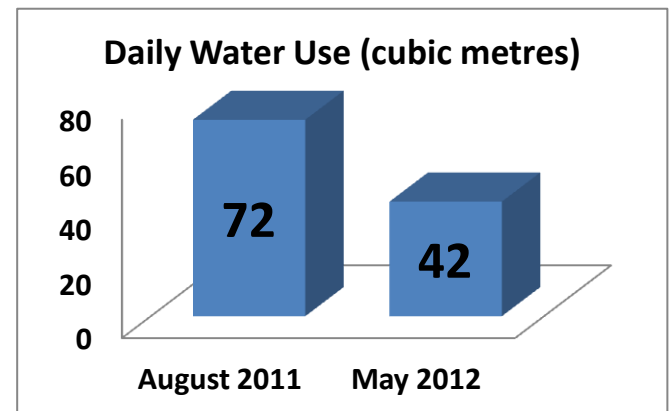
We engaged the services of The GMC Group who began by taking overnight meter readings when the Centre was closed. These readings confirmed our suspicions that we had one or more water leaks.

Armed with this information GMC were able to identify and locate several sizeable water leaks at various locations around the site and two further leaks within the premises of retail outlets. These were repaired and a number of fittings were replaced as a preventative maintenance exercise.

We also reviewed all sub-meters in the Centre to ensure they were identified correctly. We were advised and assisted by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Water Metering Department which was a great help to us. This enabled us to correct historical billing errors resulting from sub-meters being logged against the wrong premises.

We then looked more closely at the Management Company's water usage, notably in the public areas. We adjusted the cisterns of all toilets to optimise their performance and we checked equipment and fittings in public and staff areas.

The Results



Before we began, the Centre was using over 70 cubic metres of water per day. The leak repairs, upgrades to the water infrastructure and water saving measures have combined to reduce our usage to 42 cubic meters per day.

- **40% reduction in water use.**
- **€24,000 annual saving in water charges.**
- **7 month payback time**

We are now using 10,200 cubic metres less water each year. The total cost of the improvement works, including surveys, was €15,000 which is equivalent to a 7-month pay-back time.

We now monitor our water usage closely so that any future leaks, which may occur, will be quickly identified and repaired. We also have plans for further improvements to our water infrastructure.

"We are delighted to have identified and corrected hidden problems which were happening under our feet every day. Only when you measure your performance can you really start to get control."

*Ray Coary, Centre Manager,
Stillorgan Shopping Centre.*