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**Winter 2015/  
2016**

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# €coMerit

## Membership Newsletter

### Website Copy

Please feel free to share this with colleagues or contacts.

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### Coming Soon

**Econcertive has just gone electric with a Nissan Leaf Electric Vehicle.**



This will be the subject of a future case study. Meantime, interested members are welcome to [contact us](#) for our initial impressions.

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## EcoMerit Grant Success

For the fourth year running, **€coMerit** has achieved success in winning SEAI energy saving grants for our members. This includes the installation of LED pool lighting at Cobh Leisure Centre, shown in progress above.

Note the new LED's from [Ecopoint](#) are on the right, demonstrating greater clarity through the water - an extra safety benefit to assist the pool lifeguards.

Fourteen **€coMerit** certificate holders won a total of €269,000 for energy improvements which will save them €205,000 and us all 677 tonnes of carbon emissions every year.

We have a similarly ambitious application in for 2016 and expect to know the results in May.

**€coMerit** is a service provided by **€concertive** supported by



**Environmental Protection Agency**



**Eastern - Midlands Waste Region**



**Southern Waste Region**



**Waterford City & County Council**



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## ***New 2016 Project Partners***



**We are delighted to announce two important new project partners for the €coMerit programme.**

The two Waste Regions are the co-ordinating bodies for the waste management plans and promotion of waste awareness throughout the twenty two local authority areas they support. This means that **€coMerit** is now available as a subsidised service to a wider than ever range of businesses and organisations.

If your business or organisation is located anywhere in the two regions, you can now qualify for **€coMerit** support. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

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**Wexford County Council**

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For a full listing of  
**EcoMerit** certificate holders and  
members, click [here](#)

To view **EcoMerit** case studies,  
click [here](#)

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## EcoMerit Award for Blackrock Clinic



L-R: Keiron Phillips, EPA; Michael McGowan, Engineering Manager, Blackrock Clinic; An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Barry Saul and Margaret Coles, Green Business Officer, Dun Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council.

**An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Barry Saul recently awarded Blackrock Clinic its new EcoMerit Environmental Certification. Since opening in the mid-1980s, the Clinic has consistently built an unparalleled reputation in new high-tech surgical procedures, medical treatments and ground-breaking diagnostics.**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Barry Saul said *"It is a great privilege to award the EcoMerit Environmental Certification to the Blackrock Clinic which has not only excelled in the efficient management and use of resources but is also the first hospital in the county to achieve this certification which is in keeping with its long standing reputation for innovation."*

In the next year the Blackrock Clinic's environmental improvement plans include a programme for the progressive installation of energy-efficient LED lighting to replace existing mix of halogen and fluorescent bulbs and focusing on more extensive water conservation and waste prevention measures.

**Other recent EcoMerit certifications are;**

- **Terra Nua Builders (Co. Waterford)**
- **Done Deal (Co. Wexford)**
- **Barnabrow House (Co. Cork)**
- **Cabragh Wetlands Trust (Co. Tipperary)**
- **Crossflow Refrigeration (South Dublin)**

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## Construction Case Study

# Terra Nua Builders



[Terra Nua Building Contractors](#) have been based in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford since their launch in 2006. In late 2014 they decided to move from their small rented office into a larger premises they had purchased in Dungarvan.

The new offices and shop front required extensive renovation and the opportunity was taken to carry out a complete re-design and internal re-shaping. In addition to providing comfortable office and meeting spaces, the aim was to use the premises as a showcase for their building business. This was to include an emphasis on energy efficiency in addition to innovative design and high build quality, all to be achieved within a limited budget.

The main features include;

- Installation of LED lighting throughout.
- Maximising natural light in a long narrow floorplan.
- Maximising insulation both overhead and behind wall linings.

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- Installation of digitally controlled electric wall heaters.
  - Customised furniture built from plyboard.

To see the full case study, click [here](#)

To view more **EcoMerit** case studies, click [here](#).

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## Transport Case Study

### Econcertive (Terraclean)



**Econcertive** has been running the same diesel vehicle for almost six years, and its fuel performance has always been monitored. Not surprisingly, this had gradually deteriorated with time and mileage. The drop in performance will be due to a combination of engine wear and carbon build-up.

The 'normal' way to address this would be to strip down and de-coke the engine and the fuel system. This is a labour intensive (and therefore expensive) process, and very hard to justify for an engine which was otherwise running perfectly.

**Terraclean** offers an alternative decarbonising process which is carried out without dismantling the engine and at a much lower cost. We decided to put it to the test. The results were;

- A 6% improvement in fuel economy (the vehicle now delivers an average 48 miles per gallon)
- A 70% reduction in exhaust particle emissions (bringing the vehicle up to the NCT requirement for a brand new diesel vehicle)

With the car running an average of 24,000 miles per year, the payback time for the treatment is a little under one year. With a recommended treatment interval of 12 - 18 months, the process is a net money saver, as well as delivering significant fuel and pollution reduction benefits.

To see the full case study, click [here](#)

To view more **EcoMerit** case studies, click [here](#).

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Look out for our next transport case study reporting our experience with our new electric vehicle.

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## Save Even More on Support Costs



The **EcoMerit** service is already subsidised for all our member organisations. From time to time we can access additional project funding which allows us to give even better value for joining members.

### Wexford

Eight places remain available under the 2016 Wexford GreenSave programme, which is co-funded by the EPA and Wexford County Council, and run in co-operation with Wexford Chamber. As before, the €250 flat fee and full money-back guarantee apply. For more information and an application form, click [here](#)

If you are located in County Wexford, and would like more information, please [contact us](#).

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