

€coCert

Membership Newsletter, Winter 2010/2011

2010 RESULTS FOR ECOCERT MEMBERS

24 EcoCerts Awarded. Average Savings of € 7,000+.

At the end of the first full year of operation, the overall results achieved by the EcoCert member companies have been compiled.

The 24 companies who were awarded EcoCert certification during 2010 identified an impressive average annual saving of €7, 813 on their environmental improvement plans.

The companies range in size from a home-based micro-business to a manufacturing plant with more than 100 employees on site.

‘This is a reflection, not just of the EcoCert service, but of the drive and commitment of the member companies. It shows just what small and medium businesses can achieve if they take the time to really look at their energy, waste & water costs’ said Phil Walker of Econcertive.

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

Area	Average Annual Savings
Waste	€ 872
Lighting	€ 1,729
Space Heating	€ 238
Other Energy	€ 4,604
Water	€ 168
Transport	€ 13
Other	€ 189
Total Average Annual Savings	€ 7,813



Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Joins EcoCert

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Council are the fifth local council to become EcoCert partners. Green Business Officer Margaret Coles is warmly welcomed as the EcoCert steering group's newest member.

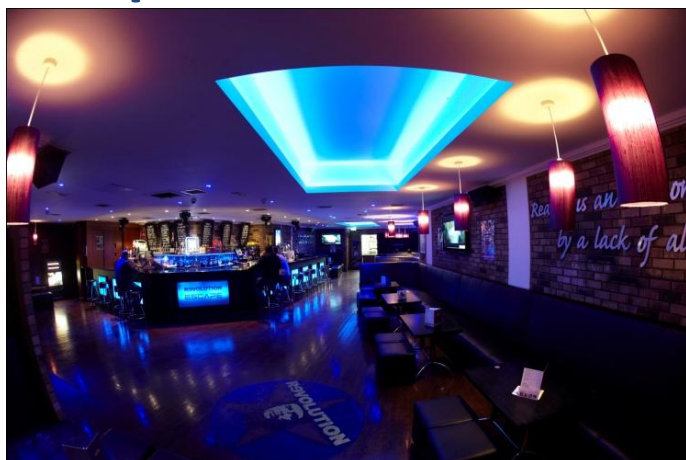
EcoCert Website Launch

The new website is now 'live'. It includes information on EcoCert services, details of the member companies, case studies and other useful material.

See it at www.ecocert.ie

€coCert is a service provided by €concertive supported by The Environmental Protection Agency, Laois County Council, Offaly County Council, Waterford City Council, Waterford County Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

Revolution Bar & Escape Niteclub



Revolution Bar is a bar business that also serves food. It was extended and renovated in June 2009. Jim 'Flash' Gordon of Revolution explains, in brief, what was achieved. For the full case study, go to the new EcoCert website – www.ecocert.ie

Lighting

We installed 170 LED lights, saving almost 80% against traditional down lighters. Our annual lighting bill for down lighters was nearly €5,000. Our new LED system cost €20,000 to install and saves us €4,000 per year. Plus extra savings from replacing bulbs much less frequently.

Lighting is automatically controlled by a "Sunlite Stick", programmed by Peter Fitzgerald of Cross Lane Digital. We now have no light switches anywhere – Our lights come on at 9am in Cleaning Mode. At opening time they change to a nice ambient light. They dim at 7pm for night time mode – and turn themselves off at closing time. We don't even think about lighting control now.

Also, we always had lights left on in Staff Rooms, Stores, Cold Rooms, Corridors. These are now controlled by PIR so they are only on when there is someone in the room.

Fridges, Freezers, Coldrooms

For us these are big energy users. At Revolution all our motors are external – Imagine running a fridge motor in a warm bar – it takes it twice as long to cool down. So the motor is constantly running. Place the motor on an outside wall or on a roof and you will cut 50% off your running costs. Make sure all door seals are clean and properly fitting. If you have a cold room – install a PVC Curtain to save 20% on running costs.

Equipment

We had 3 x 5year old glass washers, starting to give a little maintenance trouble. We looked at buying top of the range Winterhalter Glasswashers. The new machines operate with 60% less water – so 60% less electricity to keep the water hot – Our new machines cost €2,600 each and will pay-back in 2-3 years.

We had 2 x 10 grid combi ovens usually less than ½ full when in use – We traded these in for 2 x 6 grid ovens with a 30% saving in running costs.

We used traditional 3kw Panini toasters operating 14 hours a day. We now use a Merrychef oven – which is more versatile and uses 40% less power.

Water

Water in toilets was 55% of our usage. This was our main focus. PJ Mullane Plumbing supplies sourced us 6 litre cisterns saving up to 4 litres per flush. By installing 14 new cisterns (and some displacement devices) we saved 174 cubic metres of water a year, and €408.

Liam Power Electrical advised we put a PIR sensor on our Urinals which were flushing 15 litres of Water every 15 minutes, 24 hours a day. We reduced their water usage by 70% - a saving of €1544 per year.

Added to that we put push button taps in all bars, kitchen, wash-up and toilets – so taps cannot be left on. We also monitor leaks from cisterns – daily.

Total water savings per year are approximately €3,000

Waste Disposal

We looked at our waste bill. Firstly we met with our waste contractor who gave us a lot of concessions – our waste bill is down 30% and we are helping the environment.

We got free bin rental, free collection of cardboard, plastic, cans, newsprint, office paper. We segregated as much waste as we could – kitchen waste amounts to 220 litres a week. In general waste this would cost €60 a week to dispose of – as compost waste its €14.

We leased a glass crusher – so now we return 80% less glass bins. Our Kitchen decants deliveries as they arrive, giving the packaging back to the supplier.

Kitchen Housekeeping

Another area where we made cost-saving changes. See the EcoCert website www.ecocert.ie for more!