



## PV Greensun



*Project Engineer Jonas Smulders receiving training with Filipa Costa from the Ecodesign Centre at the SIRRUS event in Leuven.*

Belgium based PV company Greensun, have been 'optimizing power' for their customers since 2008. Working with both domestic and commercial clients Greensun not only offer installation of PV systems, but other services such as home insulation ensuring minimal energy loss, maximising efficiency on site. They operate as a small enterprise, having around 20 employees and working mainly in Belgium.

Greensun's Project Engineer, Jonas Smulders, was sent to Ecodesign Centre's LCA to go training session at SIRRUS' Leuven HQ by his manager. Greensun hadn't had any previous LCA experience, nor commissioned any environmental assessments before, but were interested in the prospect of understanding their products more thoroughly. They were also enticed by the concept of demonstrating the carbon footprint difference in panels sourced from Europe and Asia to their customers.

In LCA to go, Jonas assessed an already existing small-scale domestic roof in LCA to go and found the carbon footprint measurements most useful. He also found the energy payback time useful and was surprised it was



only 2.1 years, instead of his predicted four to five years. He felt it would be very useful for customers that have an interest in the environmental impacts, but cost would still likely be the deciding factor for the customer. Jonas found the downloadable PDF document of his LCA to go results extremely helpful and a useful communication tool for his customers, with its graphical presentation being easy to for his customers to understand.

Moving forward Jonas expressed that he would like to show the LCA to go tool to his colleagues. From this he would like to see the use of life cycle thinking having a direct impact on Greensun's activities, although additional factors (i.e. quality and cost) would always need to be considered.

Jonas said: "Using LCA to go can improve a companies carbon footprint, and this could have a big impact on a large companies image. Sometimes large companies are obligated to make large carbon reductions but these savings could be beneficial to the customer as well."