



PV
Suka Sol.



Filipa Costa (EDC) Training Suka Sol Director Abdul Wahab-Raaj in the LCA to go: PV tool.

Suka Sol is a Bristol based PV company founded in 2007. The company has clients across the UK and works with both private and public sectors. Suka Sol also supported the introduction of PV modules into West Africa.

Company Director Abdul Wahab-Raaj had no previous experience with LCA but had attended courses in environmental mapping and renewable energy at Edinburgh University. His understanding of environmental matters encouraged him to receive personal training from the Ecodesign Centre, allowing him to assess the PV systems his company install. Suka Sol aim to improve customer experience through reduced economic and environmental costs.

By assessing a three 28kwph systems installed for a mosque in Cardiff, Abdul was able to validate the 'LCA to go' results, which were comparable with results obtained through other measurement methods. As a result of his experience with other tools he was not surprised by the eleven year payback time predicated by the tool. However he was impressed by the tool's ease of use and the simple data entry interface, and thought that 'LCA to go' was less time-consuming than other tools he had seen. Abdul particularly highlighted how well the tool communicated energy



consumption and carbon emissions avoided. In addition, Abdul thought that the systems comparison tool would allow designers to assess the effect of altering system batteries, modules or positions.

As Suka Sol's clients are primarily interested in economic cost savings, Abdul considered that the final PDF report could be used to illustrate energy savings to clients. He also suggested that a greater impact and benefit for the company if it could be used for declaring carbon emissions avoided to open an opportunity for carbon trading. This would provide additional income to the SME and allow them to work on a larger scale.

Abdul is likely to continue to use the 'LCA to go' tool, particularly in evaluating new designs.

Abdul said: "LCA isn't a mainstream interest of customers yet, but personally and in Suka Sol, LCA to go will likely be used again."