



PV
T&T



Filipa Costa (EDC) training Commercial Director Carlos Santos (T&T) in the LCA to go: PV tool.

Established in 1993, T&T is a specialist in acclimatization, electricity and water systems. T&T design and install PV systems for domestic and commercial clients. They work principally with the Portuguese construction sector.

T&T considers the environment throughout its business practices. During his one to one training session with the Ecodesign Centre, Commercial director Carlos Santos explained, "We are concerned with printing, reducing use of paper in the office, recycle all products and packaging". The company is also keen to improve the environmental impact of its own products and systems. Carlos attended the 'LCA to go' to become more knowledgeable about LCA and its applications.

Carlos applied the 'LCA to go' tool to a system T&T are developing and was impressed that the environmental impact of production was lower and the energy payback times shorter than expected. In using the tool, Carlos found it useful to be able to display the CO₂ equivalent saving over the PV system's lifetime, but for him the chief benefit was the potential to display hotspots within the product life cycle. Carlos saw how this could be used strategically to target areas where the biggest environmental improvement could be gained.



Regarding future projects, Carlos Santos said: "Today I have learned that the most important phase of an LCA of a PV system is the production phase, because of the social and the environmental implications to the environment! I'm now more conscious of which PV panels I should be buying".