



PV Vensol



Vensol owners, Alfonso de Sousa and Adelino de Sousa.

Established in 1993, Vensol is one of the oldest solar energy SMEs in Portugal. The company work with B2B and B2C clients across the country. Vensol's mission is to develop, incentivize and facilitate the use of renewable energy technologies.

Vensol owners Alfonso and Adelino de Sousa were not experienced with LCA, and saw the 'LCA to go' tool training session with project partner Ecodesign Centre as a way of gaining a better understanding of the technical specifications and performance of their systems. Alfonso and Adelino were also interested in having robust information to use in promoting the benefits of solar energy to potential clients.

During the training Vensol assessed their own 4kW PV system. They found the tool easy to use and the results visually interesting and easy to communicate. Alfonso and Adelino thought that the environmental impact comparison of solar and coal energy was useful for communication to non-experts. As an added positive, they were pleasantly surprised by the low energy payback time of 1.36 years for their system!



Although Vensol do not typically receive requests for environmental information on their products, Alfonso and Adelino think that clients should be made aware that it is available. Adelino can particularly see benefits for new clients: "If Vensol starts pursuing commercial clients we would see the value of adding the LCA to go results into the proposal ". They also think that 'LCA to go' results would be useful for Solar Trade Associations to use in lobbying governments to promote renewable energy, and to encourage accurate reporting of environmental impacts and benefits of the industry through the media.