



PV
Eco-NRG Ltd.



(From left to right) Jude Sherry (Ecodesign Centre) and Tom Dear (Eco Nrg Limited)

Eco-NRG Ltd's mission is to provide a reliable, trustworthy and local service for designing, and installing bespoke renewable eco energy systems, to which PV plays a major role. They specialise in developing microgeneration projects for UK-based clients in the private sector (e.g. farmers, manufacturing sites, and households) and the public sector (e.g. schools).

Commercial Sales Director Tom Dear, attended Ecodesign Centre's ½ day training event in life cycle thinking and how to use LCA to go in Bristol, England in June 2014. Although Tom and his organisation have had no previous experience in life cycle assessments, he believes that LCA to go has the potential to provide them with a competitive advantage when tendering for public sector or large scale projects.

The results of their analysis of an existing system of a 21 kWp roof installation gave Tom a clear understanding of the systems energy payback time, producing an impressively low result of 1.4 years. In fact, he found this indicator to be one of the most useful results. He was also surprised by the different impacts involved in the manufacture of PV modules.

Tom Dear said: "I will continue to use the LCA to go specially for big contracts. It is good for manufacturing companies that like to show their



reduced CO₂ emissions. However, money will be the driver in the end. I would be using the tool after designing the PV system to add information". He continues by explaining that; " Carbon footprint is not the main decision making factor, priority will be given to cost and reliability."