

News

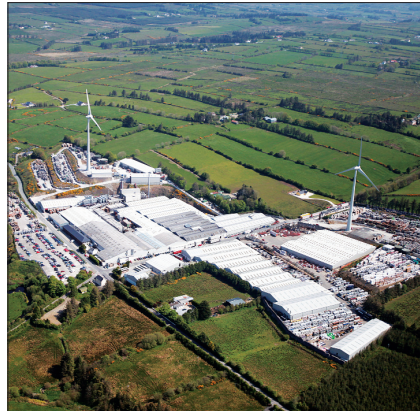
Munster Joinery becomes Ireland's first passive certified window maker

Leading Irish window manufacturer Munster Joinery has received Passive House Institute certification for its uPVC PassiV Future Proof triple-glazed window. The company has been manufacturing the units for three years, and achieved the certification in July. "It's an Irish window available to the Irish passive house market," said Munster Joinery's Marlene O'Mahony.

The Future Proof window was the first Irish manufactured window to be certified by the Passive House Institute as suitable for use in passive buildings. "It is certified as a passive house suitable component," O'Mahony told Construct Ireland. "It's now on a list of passive house suitable components from which architects and specifiers can select products."

For certification of windows, the Passive House Institute requires windows to have an overall U-value no greater than 0.8 W/m²K for a reference sized window, or an actual installed U-value no greater than 0.85 W/m²K.

The Passive House Institute classifies products which it considers to be suitable for Passive Housing as either pHc for a certifiable component, pHb for a basic component or pHa for an advanced component. The Passiv Future Proof window achieved a pHA efficiency class.



Founded in 1973, Munster Joinery has a 910,000 square foot production facility on a sixty five acre site in Ballydesmond, Co Cork, largely powered by two wind turbines. The company has a further 230,000 square foot facility on a twenty acre site at Wellesbourne in the UK. Munster Joinery employs 1,600 people.

(above) Wind turbines working at Munster Joinery's production facility in, Ballydesmond, Co Cork; Munster Joinery's Future Frame PassiV windows were installed in Michael Bennett Group's Isover Energy Efficiency Award winning certified passive house in Rosslare, Co Wexford



Eco build blog

A new blog has been created to follow in detail the progress of a planned ultra low energy, ecological passive house in Craughwell, Co Galway. Niall Dolan of GreenTec Eco Homes is planning to build the house, dubbed An Teach Glas, for himself. The house is designed by Miles Sampson Ecological Architecture.

The house design boasts a lengthy array of green features, such as a grass roof, solar PV

panels, triple-glazed timber windows, low carbon cement and solar thermal collectors. Dolan will be aiming for the house to be certified by the Passive House Institute, and he's also hoping to achieve an A1 building energy rating. You can follow the project's progress at www.zerocarbonpassivehouse.com

(above) A rendering of the zero carbon passive house GreenTec Eco Homes

Irish heat pump association launched

The Heat Pump Association of Ireland has been founded, to coordinate and promote the interests of the heat pump industry in Ireland.

Founded on 28 July in Dublin, the new association's stated aims and objectives include raising awareness of the "features and benefits of heat pump technology by freely sharing accurate information and guidance to the general public", and to co-ordinate technical and market research with the aim of improving market opportunities and overcoming barriers to the adaptation of heat pump technology in the Irish market. The association is being set up with the involvement of the leading heat pump brands and distributors on the Irish market.

The association aims to freely transfer and share information on international best practice within the Irish heat pump industry, and to provide advice and technical costing information to national government, local authorities and public bodies in legislative regulatory and energy efficient matters, to facilitate informed decisions in the preparation of energy, environmental and trade policies affecting the heat pump industry.