

## COMMERCIAL CASE STUDY

# Topform, Gort New Strategic Solar Solution Generate Significant Savings



From humble beginnings, Topform has grown to become Ireland's premier supplier of Creative Worktop Solutions.

With 40 years of experience supplying kitchen worktops and components to the construction industry, Topform are at the cutting edge of innovation in Laminating and Manufacturing.

Topform are a repeat winner of Exporter of the Year but also won the overall SFA National Small Business Award, the biggest prize for a small business in Ireland.

## OBJECTIVES

Topform are continuously striving to improve company practices and achieve a more sustainable and effective manufacturing process.

They approached Solgrid to help them deliver a key sustainability objective - to design and install a large scale Solar PV system. Solgrid took full control of the project to ensure that all company requirements would be delivered to the highest standards with no operational downtime.

## ENERGY ADVISORY

Following an in depth energy analysis, Solgrid determined that Topform's energy demand was significant enough to justify the investment in a PV Solar energy system to supplement their energy requirements.

## AT A GLANCE

### Challenges

- Develop more sustainable business processes
- Reduce CO2 emissions
- Ensure no interruption to manufacturing operations

### Project Benefits

- Reduced CO2 by 72,176 kg/pa
- Reduced Electricity spend by 21%
- Project payback under 5 years



*"Topform is one of the largest Kitchen worktop manufacturers in the world, we consume so much electricity we have our own ESB substation on site. I needed a company I could trust to implement a sustainable energy solution. Solgrid for me were the complete package of knowledge, quality and support that I needed. A solar installation of our size was going to be disruptive, but the thing that impressed me most about Solgrid was the professionalism of the people who installed our system and the human way they worked with us, we found them extraordinary easy to work with."*

**Paul Glynn**  
Managing Director  
Topform Ltd



## DESIGN SOLUTION

Solgrid Engineers designed and installed a large scale 232 kWp Solar PV roof mounted system, encompassing five different roof sections across an area of 1,104m<sup>2</sup>.

The installation consisted of 470 Q-Cells Tier-1 business class panels with the market's highest efficiency rating in excess of 21.3 %.

It is estimated that the system will produce approximately 193,348 kW hours of renewable electricity per annum for the next 30 years, which represents approximately 21% of the company's overall annual usage.

## ENERGY INTEGRATION

Gary Dolan Solgrid's Engineering Project Manager managed the project from end to end together with Solgrid's in-house team of highly skilled Engineers, Electricians and Health & Safety specialists.

Solgrid were able to provide Topform with a world class turnkey solution to ensure the project was delivered on time and within budget.



**Completed on time**



**Completed within budget**



**All quality standards met**





## Key Metrics



**232** kWp  
System size



**470**  
PV solar panels



**193,348** kWh  
Estimated annual output



**72,176** kg  
Annual CO2 savings



**< 5** years  
Payback period

## THE RESULT

As well as reducing the costs associated with the manufacturing of worktops, the PV solar system will mitigate 72,176kg of carbon emissions per annum.

This will significantly improve the carbon footprint of the company thereby helping to future proof the business.

It will also further enhance Topform's green business credentials helping to ensure products are produced in a more sustainable way.

## BENEFITS

1

Reduction in energy costs

2

CO2 emissions reduced

3

Security and continuity of power supply

4

Lower carbon tax.

**solgrid**  
sustainable  
energy

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