

## Dublin Colleges Save Energy Worth €6.9million

Dublin, 6 June 2012: DCU, UCD, DIT, and Trinity College Dublin have just completed their 8th annual energy review, and have saved energy worth €1.7million in the past 12 months. This brings the total value of energy savings since 2004 to €6.9million. The cumulative reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is 33,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, equivalent to taking 10,000 cars off the road for one year.

The energy efficiency initiative, called e<sup>3</sup> for ‘energy environment economy’, was launched in 2004, long before cost savings and austerity were the part of the national psyche. The approach of each year implementing new measures to achieve additional savings, and accumulating savings over time, demonstrates the effectiveness and potential of long term savings initiatives.

How has it been done? The colleges initially focused on more careful operation of lights, ventilation and heating. They circulated monthly energy reports for each building to demonstrate and encourage progress. Energy saving opportunities were identified during energy surveys, and more efficient methods of control implemented at modest cost such occupancy controls of lighting and ventilation in lecture theatres, and smarter heating system control strategies. Relatively small investments in new lighting and equipment also achieved good results. For instance, in two cases small local boilers were installed to service biomedical facilities with long operating hours, allowing the large central heating system to be switched off at night. As the easier, low cost measures were completed, the colleges began making bigger investments in more efficient lighting, boilers or pumps, all with demand-based controls to minimise energy use. These investment projects have generally received co-funding from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) under its grant schemes.

A key element in the success of the project has been monitoring and reporting on energy use, and analysing this data each year so that savings are verified and robust.

Further information is available on e3 at [www.e3.ie](http://www.e3.ie). A case study is also available from [www.seai.ie](http://www.seai.ie). Technical and operational support for e3 is provided by energy consultants PowerTherm Solutions and WYG.

### ENDS

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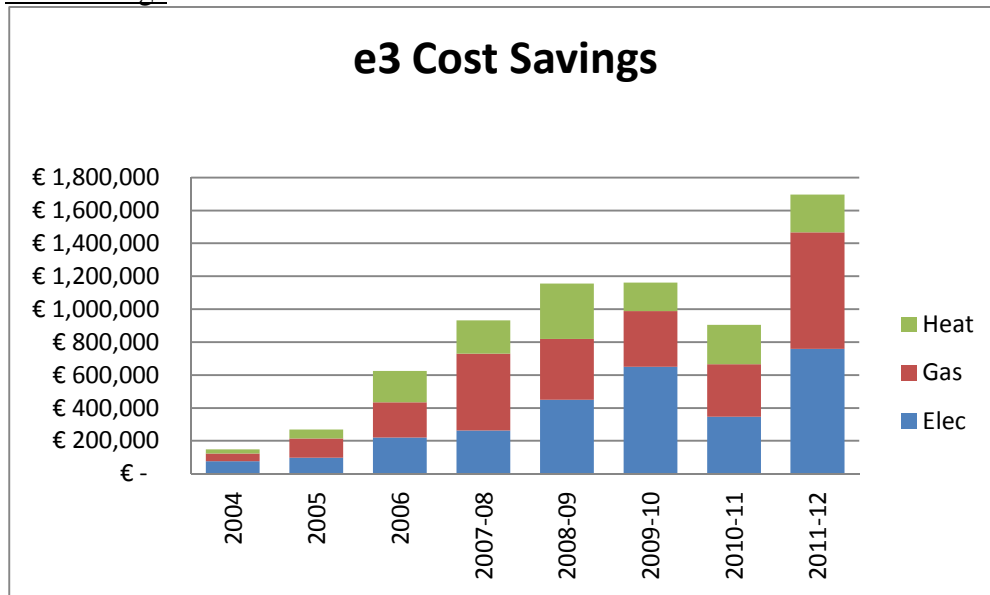
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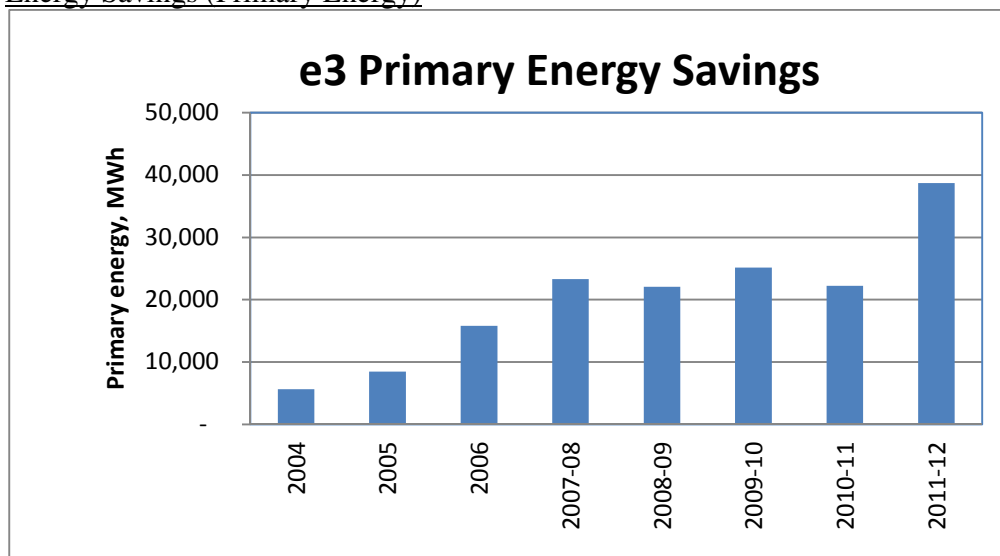
## Notes for Editors

### Cost Savings



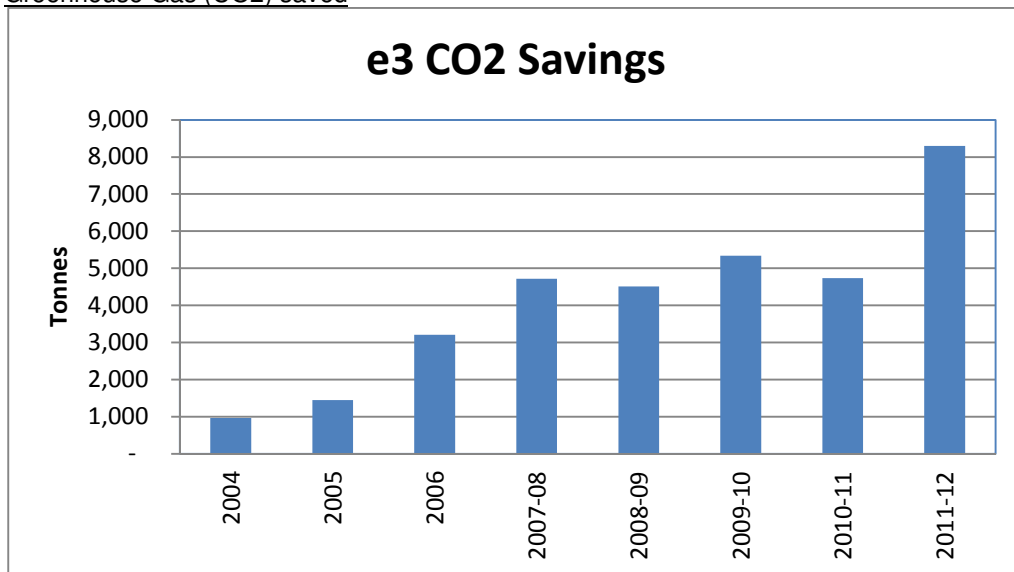
Euro Saved				
Year	Elec	Gas	Heat	Total
2004	€ 76,445	€ 46,127	€ 26,429	€ 149,001
2005	€ 97,356	€ 116,204	€ 55,894	€ 269,454
2006	€ 220,056	€ 213,658	€ 190,995	€ 624,709
2007-08	€ 263,274	€ 465,842	€ 203,801	€ 932,917
2008-09	€ 450,673	€ 369,345	€ 334,934	€ 1,154,952
2009-10	€ 650,870	€ 336,810	€ 174,790	€ 1,162,470
2010-11	€ 347,309	€ 318,918	€ 239,493	€ 905,720
2011-12	€ 759,724	€ 707,918	€ 228,429	€ 1,696,071
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 2,865,708</b>	<b>€ 2,574,822</b>	<b>€ 1,454,764</b>	<b>€ 6,895,294</b>

### Energy Savings (Primary Energy)



Primary Energy Saved	
Year	MWh
2004	5,613
2005	8,483
2006	15,793
2007-08	23,305
2008-09	22,093
2009-10	25,132
2010-11	22,229
2011-12	38,719
TOTAL	161,367

Greenhouse Gas (CO2) saved



CO2 Saved	
Year	[Tonnes]
2004	965
2005	1,446
2006	3,204
2007-08	4,719
2008-09	4,509
2009-10	5,334
2010-11	4,735
2011-12	8,296
TOTAL	33,207