



SOLAR GENERATION

COMMERCIAL BUYERS GUIDE



SOLAR GENERATION



The Future is Solar

The world is getting more competitive, the cost for electricity keeps going higher and higher, and greenhouse emissions standards are tightening. Business in general is getting more competitive. How can a business owner level the playing field? One way is to lower your overhead by going solar.

Electricity can cost thousands. More and more business demands necessitate the need to grow. That means more machines, fancier equipment, the latest technology, and yes, more electricity.

Numerous businesses sprinkled across the North West are going solar. As businesses rely more on technology, the need for a reliable and sustainable energy source has become paramount. Solar energy systems have proven to be highly efficient and reliable, providing a consistent source of electricity while significantly reducing energy costs. There is a reason why even energy retailers are investing millions into solar. One simple reason IT WORKS.

Additionally, solar energy aligns with the growing emphasis on sustainability and environmental responsibility. By capturing the power of the sun, businesses can reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to a cleaner, greener future. This dual benefit of cost-effectiveness and environmental friendliness makes solar energy an attractive choice for businesses looking to reduce their energy costs and make a positive impact on the planet.



Contents

Contents

- 1 | Who are Solar Generation
 - 2 | What Can Solar Do for Your Business
 - 3 | What Is the Cost of Doing Nothing
 - 4 | Why Solar?
 - 5 | The Solar Process
 - 6 | Installation Types
 - 7 | The Equipment
 - 8 | Financing & Incentives
 - 9 | Client Testimonials
-



1

Solar Generation: The North West's Solar Specialists



Expert Solar Technicians:

With thousands of installs under our belt (and counting), we know solar.



We Protect Your Roof:

Our experienced team ensures your roof is protected during the installation process.



No Sub-Contractors:

Our service is delivered by a fully in-house team.



Market-Leading Products:

We use top-quality products with full warranties.



Support for the Life of Your Panels:

We offer ongoing in-house customer support well beyond your install.

About Solar Generation

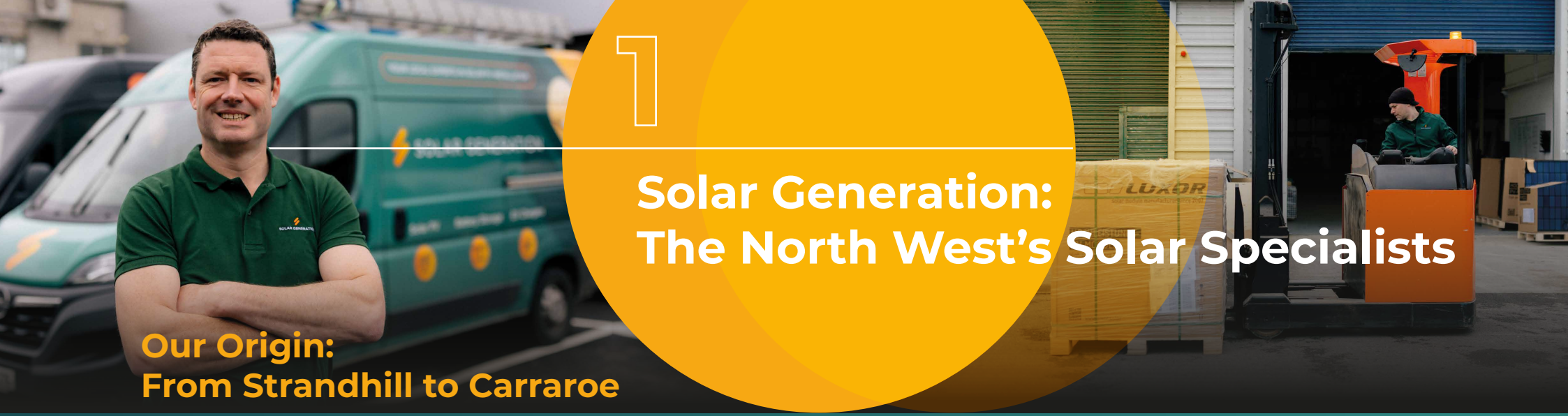
Pioneering sustainability since 2018, we are the leading solar installation company in the North-West, having successfully completed a multitude of projects across the commercial sector.

At our core, we are driven by a community of individuals who are embracing affordable solar energy, generating their own electricity, and contributing to a healthier planet while supporting those in need.

Our mission: is to pave the way for a brighter future for generations to come.

We operate with a clear purpose: to make a meaningful impact in the fight against climate change by promoting widespread adoption of solar power across the North West.

Our vision extends beyond simply installing panels and batteries. We aspire to inspire the North-West to adopt more energy-efficient and environmentally conscious practices, believing that positive energy can foster a thriving community.



1

Solar Generation: The North West's Solar Specialists

Our Origin: From Strandhill to Carraroe

Originally based at the Strandhill Campus for three years, Solar Generation quickly outgrew its space due to high demand. This led us to expand to larger premises to accommodate our growth, enabling us to recruit more talent and better serve our customers.

New Warehouse Premises in Carraroe

Our office and warehouse premises in Carraroe serve as the hub for all our operations enabling us to offer expert solar panel installation services across the North-West of Ireland, including counties Sligo, Mayo, Leitrim, Donegal, and Roscommon.

Our new facility allows us to store all our equipment, ensuring that materials are allocated specifically for each project at the point of deposit. This streamlined process enhances efficiency and guarantees timely delivery for all our installations.

Local Expertise, Local Commitment

As a local company, Solar Generation understands the unique energy needs and challenges faced by the community. We are deeply rooted in the North-West and are committed to providing sustainable energy solutions that benefit both our customers and the environment.

Milestone: Over 2,000 installations across the North-West

Solar Generation continues to lead the way in promoting solar energy adoption in the region. Our installations not only reduce carbon footprint but also contribute to a more sustainable future for generations to come.

We are the preferred installers for some of the most reputable businesses in the region, including TotalHealth Pharmacy (Riverstown & Castlerea), Strandhill Suites, Triskell Seafood, Sligo City Council, Creans Kitchens, Herron Autos, Feehily's Flowers, SG Education, and many more!

Our exceptional team sets us apart. When you choose to embrace solar energy with Solar Generation, you're selecting a team of dedicated, in-house, passionate, and knowledgeable experts who will ensure your journey is smooth and successful. With a 5-star rating on Google and 4.9 on Trustpilot, we are the highest-rated solar installations company in Ireland!

Solar PV



Battery Storage



Ev Chargers

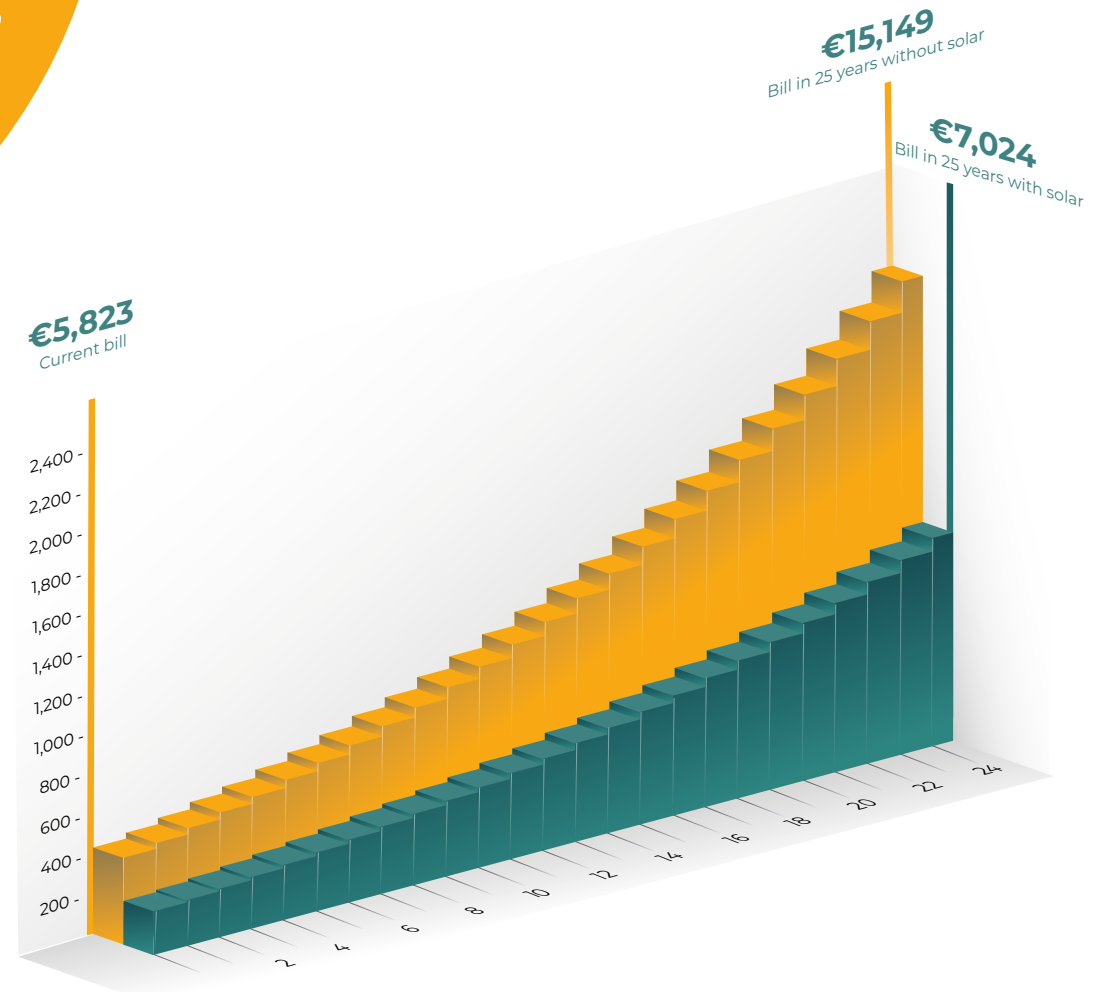


2

What Can Solar Do for Your Business?

The main purpose for solar is to save you and your business money. All too often, we're seeing utility rates steadily increase, with no other recourse other than to curb demand. But you want to GROW your business. Let Solar Generation provide an alternate, clean and predictable energy source, the sun. Establishing a solar solution for your business will reduce your businesses operational expenses and improve the bottom line. Building a system to offset your current energy demand could save you hundreds of thousands over the course of a few decades.

Please note the graph on the right-hand side which illustrates the impact a relatively small 15 kW commercial PV system can have on an enterprise's operating expenses:



3 What Is The Cost Of Doing Nothing?

We get it, change is scary. Change is hard. But, the harder reality is straightforward: Sticking with your current conventional supply of electricity loses money. What does that cost you annually year on year? Of course every situation is different, but factoring in opportunity cost, the rising expenditures in energy rates, increasing business demands, internal expansion, the pressures of needing to compete in all other avenues of business: A free energy analysis may be what you need.

Most of our commercial projects see a return on investment averaging about 3-5 years or less. Depending on how a system is designed, the return year will fluctuate. After the demand cost reaches your system cost, the solar solution can be calculated as total savings, year after year. Real Euros to invest back into your business.





4 Why Solar?

Solar seems like a big project. Why should I spend time and money on solar? Time is money, it's true. And in the case of energy, time costs more money every year. Electricity rates go up year after year, and are impossible to predict. Investing in solar now protects your business from price volatility. By choosing a solar system, you essentially secure low electricity rates for over 25 years.

While it may sound daunting to learn about an entirely new form of energy, we are here to help. Solar Generation has helped numerous local businesses go solar. We will guide you through the steps to taking your business solar – which are simpler than you might imagine.



How can running my business on solar increase my bottom line?

For any business, finding new sources of capital to reinvest in the company can be difficult. Solar saves your business money that would otherwise be spent on utility bills. The bottom-line benefits are undeniable.



How can a focus on sustainability help my business grow?

Choosing to go solar isn't just a financial decision. It's an environmental choice. Businesses that cultivate a focus on sustainability are experiencing powerful brand effects. A solar panel system on your business makes a strong statement to your customers. Their relationship with your brand grows. Employees walk just a little bit taller knowing the business they work for is running on clean energy. Study after study shows that sustainability isn't just good for the planet; it's good for business.

4

Why Solar?



If solar is so great, why isn't everyone doing it?

The truth is, more people are going solar now than ever before. Top corporate brands like Apple, Microsoft, Google and IKEA are adding solar at an impressive rate, and the influence these brands wield on consumer lives means more people are opting for clean energy of all kinds.



Why should our business go solar now?

The longer you wait to think about solar, the more it costs your business. Commercial prices for solar have decreased 90% over the last decade. However, recent global policy decisions suggest we may be nearing the bottom of that downward trajectory. Meanwhile, electricity prices continue to increase year over year. The sooner you decide to go solar, the more you can save.



Why should our business go solar now?

In addition as solar becomes more popular with businesses, large systems are being connected to local network transformers every month. This increase in potential exported power puts pressure on the transformers which can only handle so much additional load. Before installing a solar system, ESB Networks reviews each application on a first-come first-served basis. If a transformer is already at max capacity due to earlier solar connections you might miss out on installing a sizable system. Because of this we recommend contacting us sooner than later to discuss your options before demand increases further and you miss out!



5

The Solar Process

Step One: Data Collection

The easiest way to get the information needed for a quote is to provide access to your company's utility bills. This information is linked into solar software that uses satellite images to calculate usable sunlight, local weather, electricity prices, and installation solar costs.

Step Three: Design & Quote

A design and quote will be generated based off the information gathered and broken down to reflect your electricity demands, solar production, available incentives and possible rebates.

Step Two: Site Assessment

A thorough evaluation must be made of the prospective solar site, our in-house surveying team will identify a suitable location for the panels and inverter, assess the cable route back to the utility power source.

Step Four: Proposal & Overview

Plan to set aside close to an hour for a solar presentation. You will be provided details of the system, electrical, cost, benefits, interconnection, warranties and maintenance, time frame and answer any questions you may have.

5

The Solar Process

Step Six: Decision & Contract

Often time is needed to secure financing and arrange for a second presentation. After any design changes are agreed upon, a contract is signed by both parties.

Step Eight: Scheduling

A provisional installation date will be agreed and allotted.

Step Ten: Production

Final payments and commissioning of the system.

Step Five - ESB Networks Application

We handle all the paperwork for you. Our team submits an NC7 application to ESB Networks which undergoes a review and occasionally requires an inspection before approval. We'll keep you updated throughout the process.

Step Seven: Ordering

Once a contract is signed and a deposit is collected, panels, cabling, mounting kit & inverters are allocated at our warehouse facility. The connection process begins and an application is submitted to ESB.

Step Nine: Installation

The connection application is now complete and Installation

The longer you wait to think about solar, the more it costs your business. Commercial prices for solar have decreased 90% over the last decade. However, recent global policy decisions suggest we may be nearing the bottom of that downward trajectory. Meanwhile, electricity prices continue to increase year over year. The sooner you decide to go solar, the more you can save.

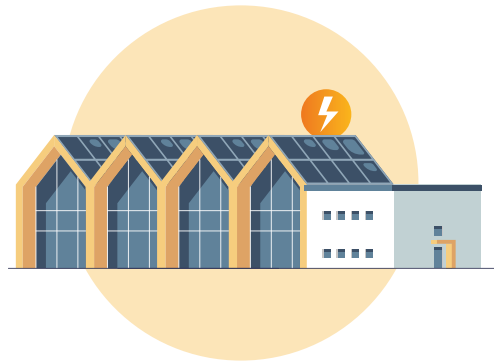
6

Installation Types



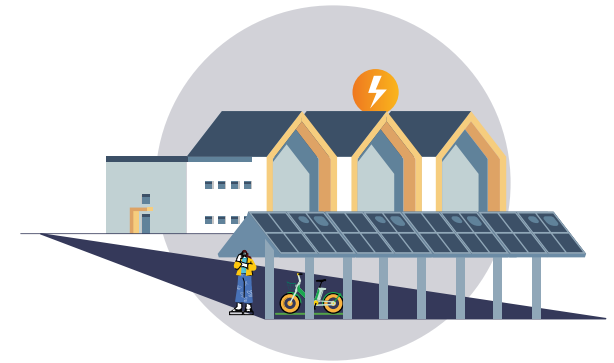
01 | GROUND MOUNT

Ground mounts can be a great product to utilise if you have the space to accommodate it. Not only can the system be built for optimum tilt and azimuth for best production, it is also easier to clean and maintain the panels.



02 | ROOF MOUNT

Ideal when trying to maximise your land, utilizing a building structure to mount a solar array is optimum if roof space is available. Benefits include little to no additional construction, no need to change crop yield, and systems are generally less expensive to install.



03 | SHADE STRUCTURE

A shade structure canopy is composed of the solar panels being utilised as roofing material. These systems are usually used to cover equipment and livestock.

Solar Panels

At the forefront of the system, solar panels stand out as the most visible component. A thoughtful design approach combines aesthetic considerations with the selection of high-quality module manufacturers to align with your financial objectives. It is crucial to use only reputable products with a proven track record of peak performance over many decades. Manufacturers offering 30-year linear warranties demonstrate their commitment to reliable energy production

This is why we have partnered with Luxor, Luxor's solar panels stand out for their innovative features and proven performance, making them the ideal choice for maximising energy yield and long-term performance.

Bifacial Technology: Luxor solar panels feature bifacial technology, allowing them to generate electricity from both the front and rear sides of the panel. This design enhances energy production, particularly when installed at an angle for ground-mounted systems or on commercial roofs with high light reflection, such as those made by Kingspan.

N-Type TOPCon Cells: Luxor solar panels use N-Type TOPCon cells, known for their high efficiency and low degradation rates. These cells offer better performance in high-temperature conditions, ensuring consistent output over the panel's lifespan.

Glass-Glass Design: Luxor solar panels feature a robust glass-glass design, offering increased durability and longevity compared to traditional glass-backsheet panels. This design also improves the panel's resistance to environmental factors like salt mist, humidity and temperature fluctuations.

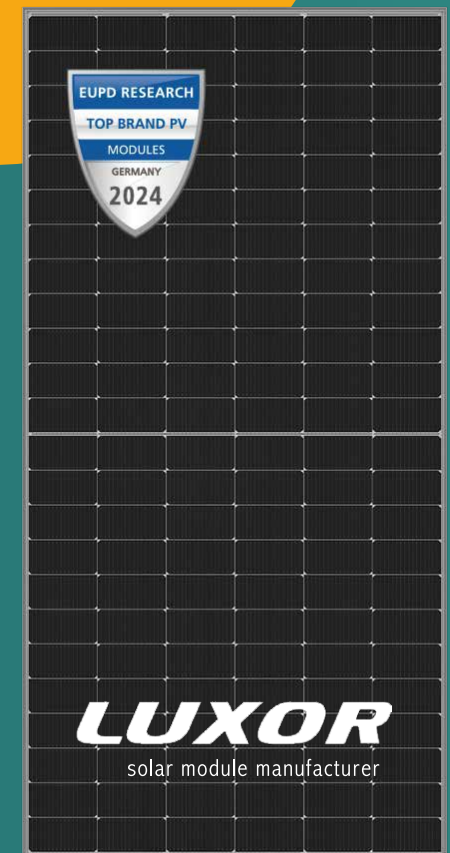
Warranty: Luxor solar panels come with an industry-leading 30-year product and performance warranty. This warranty demonstrates Luxor's confidence in the quality and reliability of their panels, providing peace of mind to customers.

Luxor's commitment to quality and sustainability is further demonstrated by the recent EUPD Energiewende Award 23/24, where Luxor was recognised as a leading module brand in Germany's energy transition. This award is a testament to Luxor Solar's dedication to providing innovative and reliable solar solutions that contribute to a sustainable future.

When it comes to choosing the best solar panel for your business, Luxor Solar's panels are the top choice in Ireland. Their superior performance, durability, and industry-leading warranties make them the ideal option for anyone looking to invest in solar energy.

7

The Equipment



7

The Equipment



Solar Inverter

In the middle, sophisticated power management components are essential for converting solar energy into usable power: Inverters are crucial for converting the DC energy generated by the solar panels' photochemical reactions into the AC energy used by businesses. At Solar Generation, we ensure reliability by exclusively using proven and reputable manufacturers such as Solax.

Solar Monitoring

Monitoring systems, included in systems from reputable providers, ensure optimal performance and functionality of all components. This enables you to monitor energy consumption patterns at your facility and to observe the contribution your solar is making to lessen your need for the energy grid.

The Solax Smart Energy Management System is designed to offer real-time monitoring and control of your entire solar system, providing you with comprehensive data to manage your costs and embrace a green lifestyle.

- Geo location weather information
- Web browser & app supported
- Visualised energy graphs - monitor your system in realtime with an intuitive visualisation view
- Remote device monitoring & controlling - control & remotely manage your system





Financing Cash

As always, cash is king. The return on investment is larger, quicker, and more substantial on a cash purchase. The downside, of course, is needing to have the initial capital to fund a system of considerable size. It's like paying for your energy up front, but at a huge discount.



Loan

Financing through a bank can be a lucrative decision. The ability to start generating solar export credits with little or no upfront payment is very inviting alongside a reduced monthly electric bill. Depending on the terms, the repayment plan will typically be less expensive than the previous electric bill before going solar. Loans enable full ownership benefits but reduce your payback proportional to the interest payments.

8 Financing & Grants

Grants of up to €162,000 available for non-domestic Solar PV systems

With the introduction of a new grant scheme through SEAI, companies can further diminish the cost of transitioning to a cheaper and cleaner energy source, with grants of up to €162,000 available.

This will be done through tiered grant supports for solar PV – for installation sizes greater than 6 kWp up to 1,000 kWp (1 MW) capacity.

Additional to the available non-domestic grant, companies paying corporation tax in Ireland can deduct the full cost of the solar installation from their profits in the year of purchase under the **Accelerated Capital Allowances** scheme. This results in a reduction in tax payable currently set at 12.5% of the value of the capital expenditure.



8 Financing & Grants



The Grant Process:

1. Select Your Contractor - before applying for your grant, you must choose your preferred installer.
2. Submit Application - the SEAI grant application is submitted online. A letter of offer is sent upon successful application. Grants are valid for 8 months after receiving the letter of offer.
3. ESB Networks Connection - our in-house team will apply on your behalf to ESB Networks to connect your solar PV system to the grid. This application is submitted 4 weeks before installation.
4. Solar Installation - once your connection to ESB has been approved, the installation can proceed.
5. Submit Completed Job - we will submit all of the required documentation related to your installation to SEAI for approval.
6. Payment Processed - payment is issued 4 to 6 weeks after job completion and submission of paperwork.

System Size	Grant Value	System Size	Grant Value
7 kWp	€2,700	100 kWp	€22,600
15 kWp	€5,100	200 kWp	€42,600
20 kWp	€6,600	300 kWp	€57,600
30 kWp	€8,600	400 kWp	€72,600
50 kWp	€12,600	500 kWp	€87,600

Client ⁹ testimonials

Crean Kitchens

 Ballina, Co. Mayo

 50 kWp System



Aiden Crean, Managing Director

“Our bills have reduced dramatically, our usage is already down by 73%”

View more testimonials here:



Client ⁹ testimonials



Michael Feehily, Managing Director

“With being florists, sustainability is really important to us, we hope to lead the way and encourage other businesses to go solar”

Feehily's Florists

 Carraroe, Co. Sligo

 15 kWp System



View more testimonials here:



Client ⁹ testimonials

Martin Reilly Motors

 Carraroe ,Co. Sligo

 50 kWp System



Martin Reilly, Managing Director

“We felt we needed to do our piece and ensure as a business we are operating as green a fashion as possible”



View more testimonials here:



Client ⁹ testimonials



David McCoy, General Manager

"We started to see the savings straight away and have already started to get money back from the electricity grid which was a first!"

Strandhill Lodge & Suites

 Strandhill, Co. Sligo

 15 kWp System



View more testimonials here:



Would you like to explore any other aspects of solar energy or have any specific questions?



Tip

Ensure you have your electricity bill ready when contacting a solar provider. This is crucial as it helps the solar consultant understand your power usage, allowing them to design the right system for your needs.



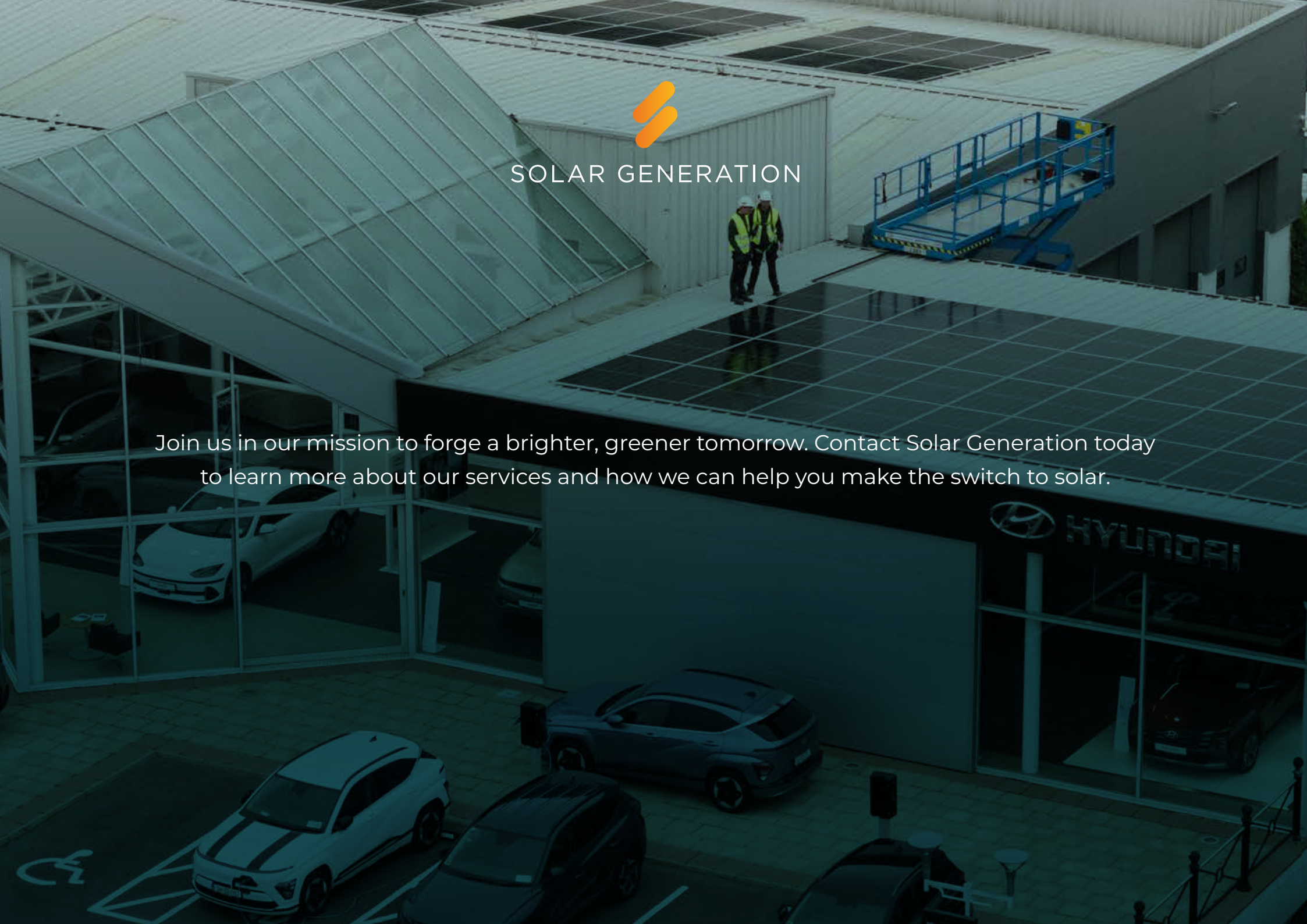
Next Steps

- 1. Talk through your options:** A consultant will discuss your house and energy needs with you, addressing any questions you may have.
- 2. Review your roof eligibility:** Utilising our industry leading software software, we can assess your roof's pitch, sun direction, intensity, and shading impact. Our experienced team has installed numerous systems on various roofs, ensuring the best approach.
- 3. Design your system:** Our goal is to provide you with a system that meets your current and future needs. We offer ongoing support for the life of your system, ensuring it delivers as expected. Following this free consultation, we will present you with a custom-designed solar system tailored to your requirements.



SOLAR GENERATION

Join us in our mission to forge a brighter, greener tomorrow. Contact Solar Generation today to learn more about our services and how we can help you make the switch to solar.





SOLAR GENERATION



www.solargeneration.ie



Unit 9, Old Dublin Rd,
Business Park,
Carraroe,
Co. Sligo,
F91 PK68



info@solargeneration.ie



071 931 0111



SCAN ME

