GOLD MEMBER CASE STUDY

Lir Chocolates

Origin Green IRELAND
Sustainability Programme
GOLD MEMBER 2020

Lir Chocolates was founded in 1987 and has grown to become a leading supplier of premium branded and private label confectionery to retailers in Ireland, the UK and beyond. In a dynamic market, its success has been built on the fundamental quality of its chocolates and an ability to consistently offer the most innovative flavour profiles and packaging concepts. Lir's production facility has evolved and can respond quickly to most customer requirements, delivering cost-effective, custom-designed and hand-decorated confectionery solutions. While many of these artisanal creations are available via its own Lir brand, the company is proud of the long and successful partnerships it has built, making award-winning chocolates for private label customers.

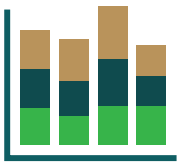
Exemplary Performance Target Areas

Minimum Origin Green Targets Required Annually = 6

Raw Material Sourcing	Supplier Certification	
	Primary Producer Sustainability	
	Packaging	
Manufacturing Process	Water	★
	Waste	★
	Energy/Emissions	
	Biodiversity	
Social Sustainability	Employee Wellbeing	
	Community Engagement	
	Health & Nutrition	★
	Diversity & Inclusion	

Spotlight Target Area: Water ★

Recognising that the content and ethos of the Origin Green programme is in keeping with the growing expectations and direction of many key local and international retailers, Lir Chocolates joined the Origin Green programme in 2017. In their 3 year sustainability plan, significant targets were set to drive further reductions in their energy and water usage per tonne of chocolate produced.



The Origin Green team led by factory manager Albert Gallagher put a plan in place to govern their sustainability progress.

> **"Origin Green is at the heart of our sustainability programme in Lir. It is a challenging process but very rewarding as sustainability is and will continue to be at the heart of our development."**
>
> Ann Murray, CEO/MD

Optimising the Production Process

Lir set a water use target of a reduction of 6% (m 3 per tonne) by 2019 In 2019, the team achieved a reduction from 2018 (m 3 per tonne) of 32.85%. A comparison with the 2016 baseline is more remarkable as they reduced their water usage (m 3 per tonne) by 54.5%.This commendable performance was made possible by making improvements in their production processes that included some of the following actions:

- **The installation and use of water metres allowing the company to focus on key areas of water usage**
- **Focusing on improving their in-house cleaning procedures to see a reduction in water usage**
- **Continuous review of pipelines to check for leaks**