CEM II are the latest generation cements, with the same performance as Ordinary Portland cement, but require less energy to produce and have a lower carbon footprint.

CEM II cement is produced by Irish Cement in modern energy efficient facilities at Platin and Limerick. Clinker production is an energy-intensive process. However in CEM II production, finely ground limestone replaces a proportion of the clinker giving a double benefit; less carbon dioxide emitted and less energy required.

Irish Cement is also producing CEM II cements in a more resource efficient manner. Traditional raw materials are being replaced by readily available overburden from the adjacent quarries and fly-ash from Moneypoint Power Station.

Over 80% of the cement used in Ireland today is eco-efficient CEM II

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CEM II cement was selected for this project because of the need for a single consistent supply, its durability and its suitability for the exposure classes, including exposure to chlorides in this extreme marine environment.

Client: Galway Co Co, Project Managers: Michael Punch & Partners, Contractors: BAM

The European Cement Standard EN 197 describes the family of common cements. CEM I has been produced by Irish Cement since 1938. CEM II cements introduced in 2006 now account for more than 80% of ICL cement sales. Finely ground limestone is used to replace up to 20% of the clinker. The limestone fines assist early stage hydration.

CEM II is the sustainable choice for Ireland.

Championing sustainability requires progress across a number of indicators. Irish Cement has been systematically targeting improvements in these key areas. The index illustrates the achievements in each sector. Sustainability of Irish Cement products has improved significantly over the past 20 years.

- Modern production and abatement equipment
- Reduced energy requirement per tonne of cement (-25%)
- Reduced emissions per tonne of cement (-10%)
- Fossil fuel replacement programme (50% target)

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