

High efficiency Automatic Wood Heating at Strabane Mills, Co Tyrone

A high efficiency automatic wood-fired boiler system is currently being installed at Strabane Mills in Co. Tyrone, to produce up to 2000kg/hour of steam for the production of cooked flaked cereals. Strabane Mills is the largest manufacturer of cooked flaked cereals in Ireland, this investment, on top of their newly built mill, shows their commitment to Agriculture in Ireland. The boiler is a 1.3MW Binder boiler from Austria and is being installed by Wood Energy Ltd.

The wood-fired boiler will replace an existing oil-fired steam boiler and will displace approximately 400,000litres of oil per year. This will result in a carbon dioxide (CO₂) saving of about 1,100 tonnes per year, helping to make significant CO₂ reductions in the region to achieve government targets in the fight against Climate Change. Switching to wood chip fuel will also result in significant cost savings for Strabane Mills.

The wood chip boiler has a “walking floor” fuel extraction system and is capable of burning a wide variety of biomass fuels such as short rotation coppice willow which is being grown by many farmers in Northern Ireland as an “energy crop”. This enables a circle to be completed in which farmers sell fuel to process the animal feed and in turn buy animal feed for their animals. This keeps the value within the local community and helps support farmers.

