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## Glenisk's €8.5m organic investment

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IRISH FARMERS JOURNAL

GLENISK, the country's largest organic milk processor, unveiled its new state of the art processing unit in Kill-  
eigh, Co Offaly this week. The plant was officially opened by An Taoiseach Brian Cowen.

The unit has allowed the company, run by the Cleary family, to expand its range of organic milk, yogurts and goats' milk products, and actively pursue new markets.

The Taoiseach said the plant marks a new phase in the 21 year history of the company. "The €8.5m redevelopment was due to Glenisk's own innovation and resources, and also from grant aid from the Dairy Investment fund, for which Glenisk was a perfect fit," he added.

The expansion has created 30 new jobs, bringing the total now employed to 55.

### GREEN ETHOS

As part of the company's green ethos, the plant is powered by Airtricity and uses reed beds to deal with waste water. Glenisk are also converting all the company's vehicles to biofuel.

"During our 21 years in business, we have seen extraordinary growth in organics," said Vincent Cleary, Managing Director, Glenisk.



An Taoiseach Brian Cowen at the launch of Glenisk's new processing unit.

Outlining the company's ambitious expansion programme, he said that Glenisk is seeking to recruit 100 new farming families to supply organic milk.

The company is currently working with North Cork Co-op in Kanturk to develop the first organic butter, with a view to building an export market.