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- 3rd of September - Thermohouse
- 25th of September - Cygnum
- 15th of October - Remagin
- 12th of November - Procon Modular
- 26th of November - Kilsaran
- December - TBC



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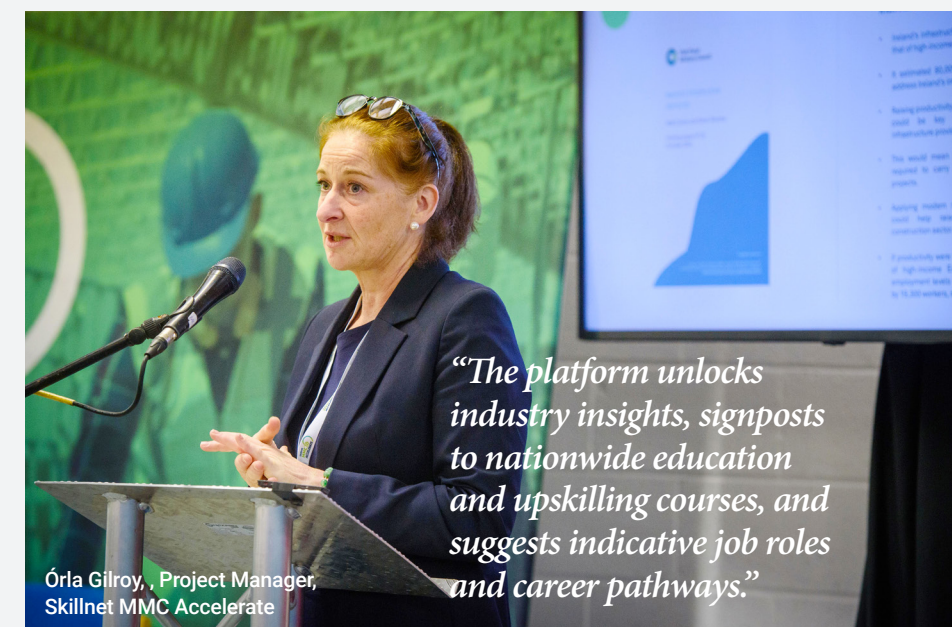
CitA
Construction IT Alliance



February Business Support Event with Cairn

Skillnet MMC Accelerate - Driving Construction Transformation

Four months into the Skillnet MMC Accelerate platform launch, we talk to Órla Gilroy, Project Manager, about the progress it has made, the appetite in industry and the future.



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SINCE its official launch in May this year, the Skillnet MMC Accelerate platform, www.skillnetmmccelerate.ie, has quickly established itself as a pivotal force in Ireland’s construction landscape. Developed by Skillnet Ireland in partnership with CitA (Construction IT Alliance), the national initiative is designed to future-proof the sector by accelerating the adoption of Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) nationwide.

Within the first 10 weeks of going live, the platform recorded over 4,000 sessions and more than 2,400 active users. According to Órla Gilroy, this early uptake reflects the strong interest across the industry in new MMC opportunities and solutions. “The Education and Upskilling section has seen positive interaction with an 85% engagement rate. The platform’s data highlights the diversity of the demographic using the site, with strong interest across varying age ranges. This is an excellent insight for us to share with industry as they seek to develop, educate and upskill their teams and future-proof talent development across MMC,” she explains.

The launch of the digital tool was attended by Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, James Lawless TD, who described the platform as “an important resource for the construction sector”. “Skillnet MMC Accelerate will be a pivotal national initiative in the years to come, equipping the sector’s workforce with the Modern Methods of Construction expertise needed to future-proof housing delivery and meet Ireland’s Housing for All, National Development Plan and Climate Action Plan targets,” Minister Lawless said.

Minister of State at the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Marian Harkin TD, added: “This new platform is more than just an online resource; it is a bridge to the future of Irish construction. The platform will help workers and businesses transition to Modern Methods of Construction so that they can build better, faster and more sustainably. It connects learners to training and puts people in control of their own skills development”

Dr Alan Hore, Co-Founder and Director at CitA and Programme Lead for Skillnet MMC Accelerate, said the platform represents “a significant step-change for the sector, responding to national and industry needs and providing companies and professionals centralised access to MMC skills and knowledge to support them in delivering high-quality, sustainable housing at scale”.

The platform is designed as a one-stop hub for knowledge and industry engagement. “This initiative is providing the sector with the opportunity to highlight MMC innovation, share knowledge, support and research, all in one place,” Órla continues. “The Education and Upskilling section itself supports companies and individuals in construction to accelerate their education and upskilling by signposting users to national courses.”

The Career Pathways tool, which maps indicative progression routes in MMC, has already attracted significant interest. Órla highlights strong interest in roles such as Robotics Engineer and Quality Control Technician, indicating users’ interest in career planning and development, while also pointing to an interest in exploring new and innovative career directions.

The platform's Research section provides access to research activity across Ireland, highlighting the collaborative approach of industry and higher education institutions in developing the Irish MMC sector. Industry Insights provides valuable access to real-life industry innovation and video showcases of MMC in practice.

The Supports section signposts resources available for those engaging with MMC, highlighting core support providers, government grants and funding information.

Search results for the site are on an upward trajectory. “The platform is ranking high for key terms like modern construction techniques and Modern Methods of Construction in Ireland. The platform's visibility is growing, indicating increased awareness of the opportunities and solutions MMC provides,” Órla says.

Platform analytics further confirm that users are engaging with the content. Feedback has been consistently positive. “Users can find everything they are seeking in one central hub. The platform unlocks industry insights, signposts to nationwide education and upskilling courses, and suggests indicative job roles and career pathways.”

“By fostering new career pathways and expediting the adoption of Modern Methods of Construction, Skillnet MMC Accelerate directly supports the Government’s housing and climate action objectives.”

“The Skillnet MMC Accelerate team welcomes communication from MMC companies who would like their projects featured or would like to suggest new roles or indicative career pathways. We are constantly liaising with education providers with MMC-related courses on Fetch and Qualifax platforms to ensure our content is accurate.”

International uptake has been strong too, Órla says, with users not only in Ireland but also across countries such as the United States, Netherlands, Germany, and Australia. “This indicates a level of international interest in Irish MMC expertise and education and upskilling courses in Ireland,” Órla adds.

The platform has been developed to provide opportunities for all audiences, including students, early-career professionals, experienced practitioners, SMEs, and larger firms. It connects learners to nationally accredited training and creates real-world learning opportunities through case studies and video insights. “The vision is to promote a unified, innovative, and inclusive skills ecosystem empowering the Irish construction industry to accelerate the adoption of Modern Methods of Construction and drive sustainability, productivity, and digitalisation,” Órla explains.



Since July, links to new national training courses have been included: 3D construction printing, advanced BIM and digital construction, and sustainability courses. These build on established categories covering digital design, offsite manufacturing, lean and green learning.

All courses are linked to QQI/FETAC accredited providers, ensuring recognised qualifications that carry weight with employers. Career pathways are also evolving, with indicative routes mapped across eight identified MMC job families on the platform. “Beyond individual courses, this supports companies and individuals to map the skills they require for their teams and their own career progression enabling them to strategically plan and develop in emerging MMC specialisations,” Órla says.

To complement the online platform, the Skillnet MMC Accelerate Scheme is building business support through regional events which commenced in September 2024 largely in MMC factory settings. Three of the eight events planned for 2025 have already taken place, with five more in Kerry, Cork, Tipperary, Laois, and Dublin planned over the coming months. These in-person events provide companies with opportunities to engage directly with industry leaders, see MMC practical demonstrations firsthand, and build valuable networks.

Skillnet MMC Accelerate maintains strong partnerships with Skillnet Ireland, CitA, industry partners, and education providers. To support the increased adoption of MMC in Ireland, Skillnet MMC Accelerate is strengthening partnerships with industry partners, professional bodies, and educational providers

to ensure the right skills are in place across design, manufacturing, and construction.

“The scheme and platform aim to integrate MMC innovation, knowledge sharing, access to education, upskilling, and career development into the mainstream evolution of Ireland’s construction sector, facilitating practical, solution-focused implementation and national opportunities for comprehensive skills development,” Órla concludes.

Skillnet Ireland CEO Mark Jordan summed up the long-term vision: “By fostering new career pathways and expediting the adoption of Modern Methods of Construction, Skillnet MMC Accelerate directly supports the Government’s housing and climate action objectives. This online platform will play a key part in driving full-scale MMC adoption in Ireland, supporting professionals and businesses at every stage of their journey.”

As Ireland continues to deliver on housing and climate targets, the future of construction is modern, sustainable and digital. Skillnet MMC Accelerate is at the centre of this transformation, providing a dedicated national platform that highlights innovation, opportunities, solutions, and pathways to success for companies and individuals alike.

Skillnet MMC Accelerate is an innovative collaborative initiative between Skillnet Ireland and CitA that combines Ireland’s dedicated Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) hub with nationwide Business Support Events for construction companies and individuals.

To explore the platform further or contact the Skillnet MMC Accelerate Team, visit www.skillnetmmccelerate.ie ■

