



The Certification Mark for Onsite  
Sustainable Energy Technologies

MCS

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*MCS Metering Guidance*  
V1.0

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## 1. Introduction

The Government has introduced Feed-in Tariffs (FiTs) to support small-scale electricity generation from April 2010. These are in two parts:

- a generation tariff paid on electricity generated. This will vary according to the technology and on the date of installation; and
- a common export tariff for all units exported from the premises (assuming there is a connection to the electricity distribution network).

In circumstances where a meter is required to record the electricity exported from the premises will need to conform to Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) requirements and will be the responsibility of an electricity supplier.

The generation meter should not need to meet the requirements of the BSC but the Government considers that it should meet the requirements of the Electricity Act 1989 (and subsequent legislation and regulations). It should not be necessary for the electricity supplier to procure and fit this meter and it is therefore proposed that the MCS installer provides it.

It is recognised that there is to be a roll-out of smart metering which the Government is targeting to be completed by 2020. The metering arrangements described here do not include for smart meters.

## 2. Scope

Generation metering will only be required where there is electricity being generated by the MCS installation and the customer wishes to receive generator FiTs payments.

Separate technologies will need to be separately metered as they will receive different generation tariffs. If there are instances of different technologies being installed but only a single generation meter, only the lower FiTs generation tariff can be claimed by the customer therefore each installation should be separately metered and any additions to existing technologies should also have a separate generation meter.

## 3. Choice of Meter

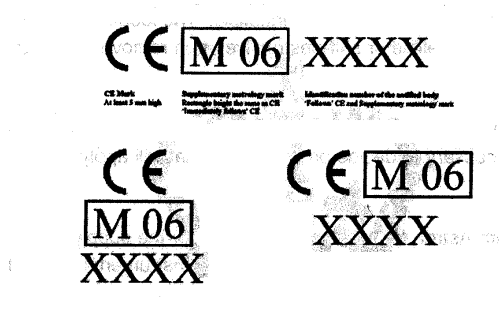
The Electricity Act (Schedule 7) requires that a meter be certified, although from 30 October 2006 meters may also be approved under the European Measuring Instruments Directive (MID). The MID enables a 'European Type Approval Certificate' to be issued, and the meter can then be used in any EU Member State.

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Electricity Act certification is currently controlled by the National Measurement Office and a list of certified meters is available on their website at [http://www.nmo.bis.gov.uk/fileuploads/Utilities/Schedule\\_4 -  
\\_7th\\_Septembe\\_2009.pdf](http://www.nmo.bis.gov.uk/fileuploads/Utilities/Schedule_4_-_7th_Septembe_2009.pdf).

MID approved meters need to meet the Measuring Instruments (Active Electrical Energy Meters) Regulations 2006 which implement EU Directive 204/22/EC.

MID Approved meters will carry a CE mark:



where XXXX is the identification number of the notified body.

A summary of all MID meters with certificates issued by UK bodies is available at [http://www.nmo.bis.gov.uk/fileuploads/Docs/Certificates%20database/ELECTRICITY  
- MID Certificates Received as at 7 Dec 09.pdf](http://www.nmo.bis.gov.uk/fileuploads/Docs/Certificates%20database/ELECTRICITY_-_MID_Certificates_Received_as_at_7_Dec_09.pdf).

The meter should be fitted with a backstop so that it does not run “backwards” in circumstances where there is power flowing to the generator.

Meters are to be installed according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

#### 4. Position of meter

The meter shall be fitted to a vertical surface and be placed in a position so that the register can easily be read by the customer without requiring the use of any equipment such as tools, ladders or a torch. Ideally the meter should be positioned adjacent to the consumer unit.

#### 5. Sealing

The meter and terminal cover should be sealed to ensure that the customer cannot access either.

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## 6. Application for Feed-in Tariffs

The generation meter should be installed as part of the MCS installation unless the customer has specifically advised that they do not wish to receive generator FiTs payments.

Once the installation is completed it will need to be registered on the FiTs database:

<https://certificate.microgenerationcertification.org/default.aspx>

The customer may then approach an electricity supplier to enter into arrangements to receive FiTs payments; the supplier will make arrangements to install the export meter if the customer wishes to receive export FiTs payments.

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## AMENDMENTS ISSUED SINCE PUBLICATION

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