



The Certification Mark for Onsite  
Sustainable Energy Technologies

MCS

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## MCS Transitional Arrangements for Micro Hydro Installers

Version 1.0  
25<sup>th</sup> June 2010

## **Introduction**

The MCS Micro Hydro Working Group is developing a Standard for Micro Hydro Installers. It is recognised that, until that work is completed, an interim arrangement is needed, which will allow suitable Micro Hydro installers to operate under MCS, enabling customers to access the Scheme but without compromising the quality assurance it provides.

Installer transition arrangements will only be applied to hydro installers who fulfil the criteria here-in, and not applicable to installers of other technologies currently included in the MCS scheme.

To ensure that customers can maintain their confidence in those micro hydro installers that have not completed their MCS certification, a structured framework for the interim has been established.

This includes: -

- minimum criteria to be met for the installer being registered;
- a declaration from the applicant that commits them to either remediation or recompense, to customers, in certain circumstances as set out in the Annex

### **Transition Timeframe**

The Micro Hydro Installer Transition scheme will be open to new applicants from **25<sup>th</sup> June 2010** until after the MCS Installer Standard is approved and issued, and until at least three months after the first Certification Body has been accredited to offer certification services against it.

At that point, entry to the list will close. Those installers remaining on the list will have a maximum of three months after that to become MCS Certificated, at which point all installers will be removed from the list.

(Should the first Certification Body become accredited less than 6 months from the date of the publication of the MIS 3006 Micro Hydro Standard, then the list will remain in place for 6 months after the date of the Standard's publication, to ensure that applicants have been allowed sufficient time to prepare for certification against the Standard).

For clarity the diagram below details the sequence events:

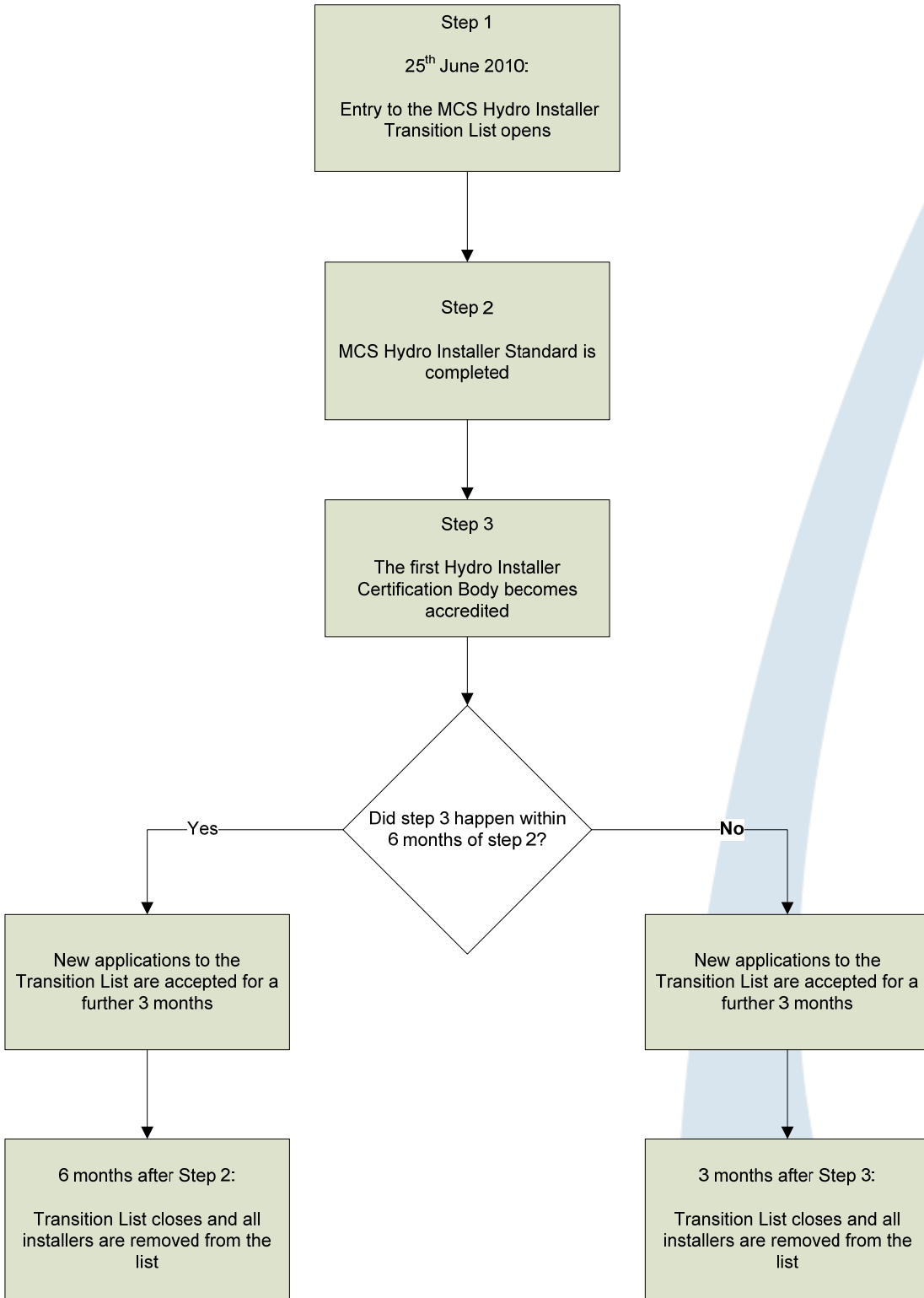


Figure 1 Sequence of events for Hydro Installer Transition

The Transition Evaluation Team (TET – see below) will keep the above timescales under review to ensure their continued appropriateness, and will give all Transition Installers at least 30 Working Days' notice should they be changed.

\* The TET has adopted a case-by-case based approach and exceptional circumstances can be taken into consideration.

### **Transition Minimum Requirements Criteria:**

The minimum criteria for Micro Hydro Installers to be eligible for MCS Micro Hydro Transitional Arrangements shall be as follows:

- 1) Intent to become MCS certificated;  
Correspondence and/or a “heads of agreement” with a Certification Body (which intends to offer Certification services against the forthcoming Micro Hydro Standard MIS3006) who have acknowledged that the installer and/or installer company intends to become certificated to the MCS Micro Hydro Installer Standard when this is completed and issued.
- 2) An appropriately completed ‘Declaration’ (see Annex), returned to the MCS Licensee ([mcs@gemserv.com](mailto:mcs@gemserv.com))
- 3) Membership to the REAL Assurance Scheme or signing up with any approved Code of Practice that meets the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) Consumer Code Approval Scheme; <http://www.realassurance.org.uk/> .
- 4) Demonstration of the Installer’s competence in installing Micro Hydro products, this shall be in the form of a written submission related to the installer’s capability in undertaking Micro Hydropower system installation.

This should cover the following:

- a. Electrical systems design, including compliance with the current edition of the Wiring Regulations (BS 7671) and in particular, section 551, which considers low voltage generating sets. Compliance with any other applicable standards (e.g. Engineering Recommendation G83/1 or G59/1 for grid connected systems). More generally,
  - i. Understanding of conventional AC systems (50 Hz, fixed nominal voltage);

- ii. Understanding of non-conventional AC systems (e.g. the variable frequency, voltage and current characteristics of generators);
- iii. Understanding of battery systems (if appropriate), in particular, sizing, charging and discharging characteristics, depth of discharge, ventilation and dump loads;
- b. Mechanical systems design
  - i. An understanding of requirements and principles BS:EN61116 Electromechanical equipment guide for small hydro installations
- c. Safety considerations for example safe lifting, site safety and guarding.
- d. Environmental considerations
- e. Energy performance calculations
- f. Licensing and regulatory requirements

### **Transition Evaluation Team**

Each submission will be reviewed by a Transition Evaluation Team (TET). The TET consists of the Chair of the Steering Group, plus two other permanent members (preferably from the Steering Group and neutral to any technologies) and a fourth member selected for their expertise in Micro Hydro installations. The members of the transition team will be impartial and will have to declare any conflicting interests as, or if, they arise and stand down for the discussion.

## APPENDIX – INSTALLER DECLARATION

This declaration applies only to installers of MCS Certificated and MCS Transition products that are installed within the UK, where the installer is providing their services in the capacity of an MCS Transition Installer.

I, \_\_\_\_\_(Director / Proprietor of (Company)), declare that,

Whenever (Company) promotes, advertises or offers for sale its MCS certificated Micro-Hydropower System installation services, it will ensure the following text is prominently displayed:

“Please note that (Company) has been classified as a ‘Transition Installer’ under the MCS

I understand that:

MCS Transition Installers may be removed from the MCS Transitional Arrangements (MCS-TA) by the MCS Transitional Evaluation Team (TET) following a 30 day consultation between the TET, the associated Installer, and the associated Certification Body.

A Transition Installer may be removed from MCS Transitional Arrangements following one of the circumstances listed below:

1. The Transition Installer fails to satisfy MCS-TA registration requirements in accordance with applicable time requirements, or;
2. The Transition Installer fails to complete full MCS certification in accordance with the applicable time requirements, or;
3. The Transition Installer develops serious issues during the transitional period such that the Transition Installer is deemed unlikely to satisfy full MCS certification requirements, or;
4. The Transition Installer submits a written request to the TET for its removal from MCS-TA.

I undertake that:

If (Company) is removed from the MCS-TA for any reason, and / or does not complete full certification in accordance with the applicable time requirements, it will undertake the following:

1. Provide the customer with full disclosure as to the removal of the company from MCS-TA, and;
2. Agree with the customer to either:
  - a) Provide a refund of the original cost of the installation to the customer; or
  - b) Meet the cost of having the installation completed and commissioned by another agreed MCS or MCS-TA certificated Installer, or
  - c) Act as otherwise agreed with the customer

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company and Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

Declaration: This document

MCS: Microgeneration Certification Scheme: The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) is an independent scheme that certifies micro-generation products and installers in accordance with consistent standards. It is designed to evaluate micro-generation products and installers against robust criteria providing greater protection for consumers. See [www.microgenerationcertification.org](http://www.microgenerationcertification.org)

Installer Transition List: This is a list of installers that are working towards MCS Certification, and which remain on the MCS Installer List for as long as they continue to satisfy MCS-TA registration requirements in accordance with applicable specific time requirements.

See <http://www.microgenerationcertification.org/Transitional+Arrangements>

Installer: An organisation certificated under the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) Installer standards. .

Customer: A company or individual contracting with an Installer to procure and install MCS-certificated product.

Company: The trading name of the organization that is undertaking to comply with the requirements of this declaration

## AMENDMENTS ISSUED SINCE PUBLICATION

DOCUMENT NO.	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DATE
1.0	First issue	25/06/2010