



The Certification Mark for Onsite
Sustainable Energy Technologies

MCS

MCS Transitional Arrangements

Version 5.1
28th June 2010

Introduction

On 31st December 2009 the Clear Skies list was closed off for Installers wanting to access Low Carbon Building Programme funding, which required the Installer to be on the MCS list. At the time there were insufficient products on the MCS to close off the Clear Skies product list.

Due to the positive response and hard work by the Certification Bodies and Product companies, we are now in a position to support the final transition from the Clear Skies list to MCS product list.

However, as we appreciate that not all the technologies and companies are in the same position, the final stage will be in two parts, enabling those that have experienced legitimate difficulties to use the transition period to complete their product certification.

The following information explains more of the rationale and how this will work.

The transition will be on a case-by-case submission basis, as companies have approached their implementation of their MCS certification in different ways.

Company submissions will be made to the scheme administrator, Gemserv, by email (mcs@gemserv.com), explaining; how the company is complying with the minimum requirements, what the company is doing to complete their MCS certification and a brief history of why they have not been able to achieve their MCS certification so far.

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

This includes: -

- minimum criteria to be met for the products being registered;
- a declaration from the applicants that commits them to either remediation or recompense, to customers, if their products do not achieve the additional requirements of the MCS certification process (i.e. those elements that were additional to what they had already passed as minimum criteria) should those additional requirements be of material consequence to the customer.

A case-by-case based approach will be adopted, and exceptional circumstances can be taken into consideration.

Transition Minimum Requirement Criteria, and Timeframes:

For all products included in the Transition Arrangements, (with the exception of wind and hydro products), Part 1 criteria must be satisfied by the applicant,

Applicants to the Wind Transition Arrangements must satisfy the criteria in Part 2 only.

Applicants to the Hydro Transition Arrangements you must satisfy the criteria in Part 3 only.

A timeframe for the Transition Arrangements related to each of the respective MCS technologies is set out in the relevant 'Part' of this document.

Part 1 – For Biomass, Heat Pumps, Solar PV, Solar BIPV, Solar Thermal

Transition Timeframe

The transition periods will be: -

- Close of Clear Skies 31st December, 2009
- Entry to the transition scheme closes 30th June 2010
- The transition scheme closes, and only MCS certificated products will be eligible, from 1st October, 2010

Certification Bodies and Test Laboratories (Mandatory)

- Under contract with a Certification Body and/or Test Laboratory (where testing is required)
- Contract with Certification Body (MCS EN45011 accredited, or equivalent) for the completion of MCS certification requirements; and/or
- Contract with Testing Laboratory (MCS EN17025 accredited, or equivalent, or deemed equivalent by MCS Certification Body, or route for testing agreed with Certification Body if private test facilities are being used) for the completion of MCS testing requirements.
- The company must either have a date for the certification body to carry out the product certification review and/or provide evidence that they are actively working on their MCS documentation requirements;

Additional to the above, the evaluation team will consider the impacts of the following (the evaluation ensures the consumer impact will be reduced to a minimum).

Safety and functioning – Completion of Safety and function testing requirements in accordance with the relevant MCS standard and those additional items in **Table 1**.

Performance – Completion of energy performance testing requirements in accordance with the relevant MCS standard and those additional items in **Table 1**.

Environmental Impact – Completion of environmental impact testing requirements in accordance with the relevant MCS standard and those additional items in **Table 1**.

Technology	Criteria / Indicator
Biomass	Type Test Reports required, and all either to EN303-5 or relevant biomass standards; however these will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
Heat Pumps	<p>In order to determine whether the manufacturer has begun the process by 31st December it must demonstrate:</p> <p>Contact has been made with a Certification Body</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturer shall have test data for products entering the transition period (in house test data may qualify under the product family rule) <p>A list of products for certification has been provided stating the product parent and children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a commitment to certify once agreement is reached with regards product family issues (this may be a deposit fee paid, written contract or schedule of work to be completed by the Certification Body – including the FPC audit) • Witness testing or equivalent requirements are within any written schedule of works supporting the certification commitment
Solar BIPV	<p>Performance testing with a warranty for the life of the product.</p> <p>BIPV already on the Clear Skies list.</p> <p>BIPV will have the same production factory as the traditional PV Panel production – it is a way of ensuring the products are made in a factory that uses processes that achieve IEC standards under ISO 9001 (It is not unusual for companies to sell products under their Brand name when they are made by a third party or they have a JV with another company, these companies may or may not be operating to IEC / ISO standards).</p>
Solar Photovoltaic Modules	The photovoltaic module are required to have full IEC 61215, or 61646 certification by an approved test authority
Solar Thermal	Type Test Reports required, and all to EN12975, however these will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Table 1 – Technology-Specific Criteria

Part 2 – For Wind

Transition Timeframe

The transition periods will be: -

- Close of Clear Skies 31st December, 2009
- Entry to the transition scheme closes 30th June 2010
- The transition scheme closes, and only MCS certificated products will be eligible, from 31st December, 2010

5) **MCS-TA wind requirements, Phase 1** – Registration to MCS-TA (1st Jan 2010 until 1st April 2010):

1. Contract with Certification Body;
2. A signed Declaration returned to MCS licensee.

Notes:

- All transitional products already posted on the MCS website will be evaluated against this criterion by the MCS Transitional Evaluation Team (TET);
- A contract with a Certification Body is the formal acceptance of an offer from a Certification Body of certification services in relation to that product.

b) MCS-TA wind requirements, Phase 2 – Registration to MCS-TA (1st April 2010 until 30th June 2010):

1. Contract with Certification Body;
2. Signed Declaration returned to MCS licensee;
3. Completion of Performance testing (as deemed acceptable by the TET);
4. Completion of Safety and Function testing (as deemed acceptable by the TET);
5. Completed performance data is placed within the public domain.

Notes:

- A contract with a Certification Body is the formal acceptance of an offer from a Certification Body of certification services in relation to that product;

- Performance testing is defined as the completion of power performance testing requirements in accordance with MCS006 Section 2 of the BWEA Small Wind Turbine Safety and Performance;
- Safety and Function testing is defined as the completion of Safety and Function testing requirements in accordance with MCS006 and Section 4.3 and 4.4 of the BWEA Small Wind Turbine Safety and Performance Standard;
- The completion of all testing must be deemed acceptable by the TET;
- All transitional products already posted on the MCS website will be evaluated against this criterion by the MCS Transitional Evaluation Team (TET);
- Any transitional product which does not satisfy any of the individual MCS-TA registration requirements as of the 1st April 2010 will be highlighted as such on the MCS website, until such time as that requirement is fulfilled

c) MCS-TA wind requirements, Phase 3 – Registration to MCS-TA (1st July 2010 - 31st December 2010):

- Entrance to MCS-TA is now closed.
- Only full MCS certification will permit products to access listing on MCS website;
- Transitional wind products, that satisfy MCS-TA requirements as of the 30th June, will remain on the MCS website listing until 31st December 2010;
- MCS-TA for wind products will expire on the 31st December 2010. Thereafter only fully certified MCS products will access MCS website listing.

Part 3 – For Hydro

Hydro Turbines

The MCS Hydro turbine product standard is currently under development by the Micro Hydro Working Group. The Hydro Working Group has established transitional arrangements for micro products.

Transition Timeframe

The Micro Hydro Product Transition scheme will be open to new applicants until after the MCS Hydro Product 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 products remaining on the list will have a maximum of three months after that to become MCS Certificated, at which point all products 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 MCS Product 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:

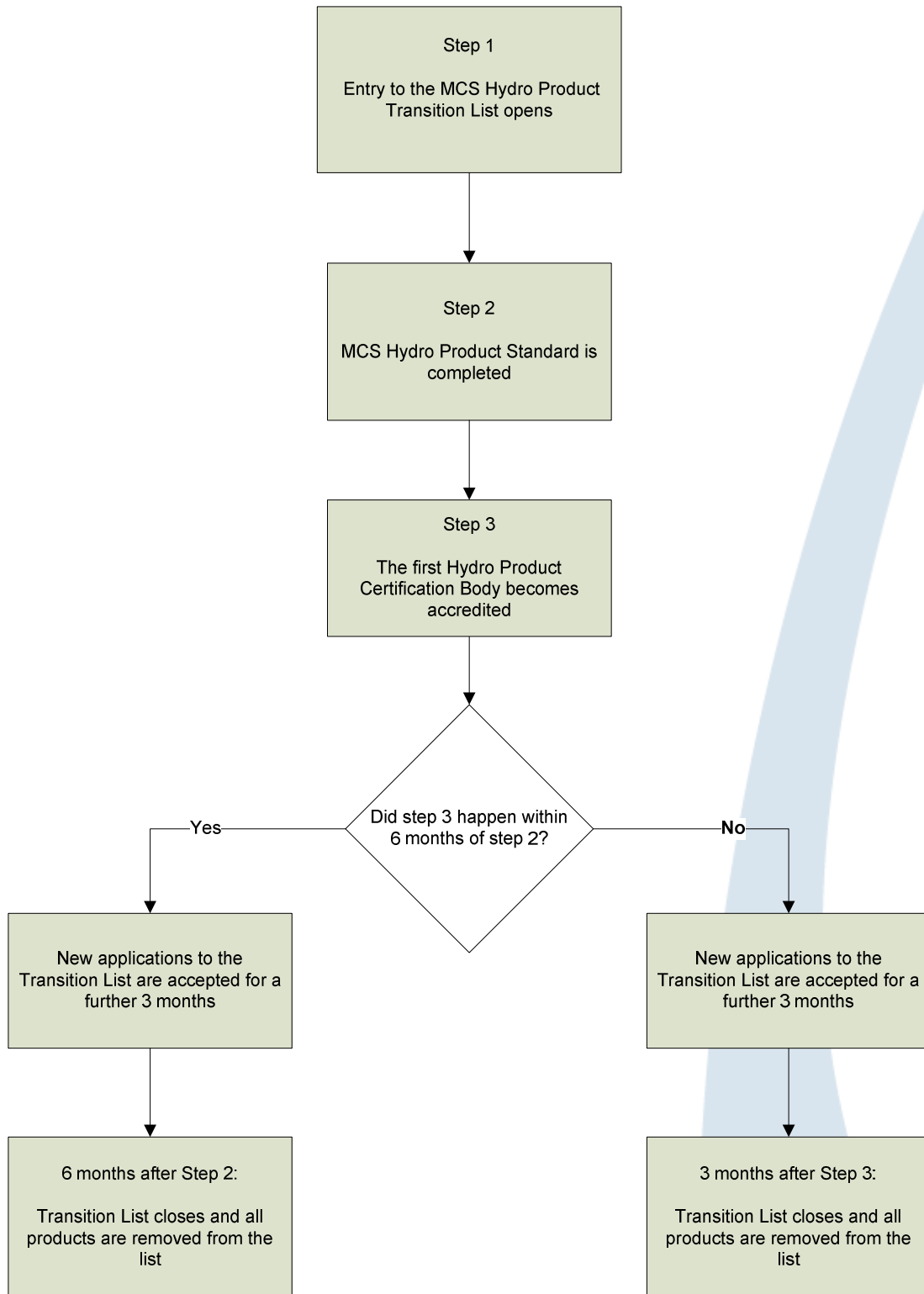


Figure 1: Sequence of events for Hydro Product Transition

Transition Criteria

The minimum criteria for Hydro Products to be eligible for MCS Hydro Transitional Arrangements shall be the following:

- 1) Intent to become MCS Certificated
 - a. correspondence and/or a “heads of agreement” with a Certification Body, who have acknowledged that the manufacturer and/or supplier intends to become certificated to the MCS Hydro Product Standard when this is completed and issued,
- 2) Documentation or reports with details under the following three areas¹:
 - a. Power Performance
 - b. An efficiency vs. flow curve shall be presented along with tabulated data points. This curve should extend from 0 % to 100 % of rated flow and error bars should be included with a justified range. Efficiency shall be determined by measurement of either mechanical or electrical power. The procedure by which the above efficiency vs. flow curve(s) were determined should be documented in sufficient detail to allow for validation and verification of all relevant data.
 - c. Safety and Function
 - i. Guidance on guarding, safe operational pressures, and safe lifting points should be included with the products.
 - ii. Maintenance, operation and installation manuals should also be included with the products.
 - d. Environmental
 - i. Demonstrate a neutral environmental impact in terms of environmental contaminations from bearing lubricants.
- 3) A completed Declaration (see Annex 1) returned to the MCS Licensee.

¹ See Annex 2 for a template in which this information might be provided

Part 4 – General

All other requirements of the MCS product and associated standards will be required for full certification.

Declaration

It is a requirement of the transition agreement that a declaration will be signed and dated by an authorised director of the Manufacturer / Distributor Company applying for any product to be added to the transition list. See Annex 1 for the wording of the Declaration for all technologies.

Transition Evaluation Team

As the transition arrangements are going to be decided on a case by case submission, it has been decided that a Transition Evaluation Team will be established to review and agree on the submissions received.

However, for this to function, the team reporting to the Steering Committee will need to be independent and unbiased while having a competence to evaluate a particular technology's issues. Therefore it is proposed that the Evaluation Team should consist of, the Chair plus two other permanent members (preferably from the Steering Group and neutral to any technologies) and a fourth member selected for the Technology being discussed (preferably from a trade association). 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.

Technology Update

It was decided that those products that were deemed to be so new or innovative that it would be difficult to meet the transition deadlines, would not be included as transition products and will follow the standard MCS Certification process.

The following is a quick appraisal of the sectors discussed. Other sections of this document explain the criteria under which the technologies are recognised as in transition and what additional requirements will be needed to comply with the MCS standards.

Population of the criteria will need to be carried out in consultation with industry. Certain elements will be constant across all technologies, such as, the minimum

thresholds for engaging with Certification Bodies; however a consistent and balanced approach to the criteria will be required.

Heat Pumps

The product standards are established. The main issue for the industry has been the late conclusion of what constitutes a product family and the subsequent definition. This was agreed at the Steering Group meeting on the 27th October, 2009. As the heat pumps are the most populated technology in MCS, it is felt that only product companies that can demonstrate they had specific issues due to the lack of a product family should be considered and therefore the case by case basis works for the industry. There are 2 test houses believed to be accredited for heat pumps in the UK, BRE and BSRIA.

Photovoltaic

Transition criteria are included for both 'Standard' PV and BIPV.

However, the scope of the MCS Standard for PV currently does not include BIPV, as there are no tests available for the BIPV products currently in ISO or CEN, and as the products are so variable and small volume the costs would outweigh the investment.

The PV Working Group have been asked to look at whether there is a possibility to provide material performance standards for a model size product, in a defined test frame and use this as a way of demonstrating performance.

Utilising this material performance and having statements with regards to performance of the final size and shaped products will allow a standard to be developed quickly. The industry already provides clients with performance data. If this is achieved then a transition period will need to be agreed based on the capacity of test houses to service the testing.

Wind

The standards are established. The issue is with getting through testing which may take some time, such as durability tests. The wind industry has laid out their case for a transition period, based on the lengthy requirements of testing. However, the industry is confident that they can provide a good volume in the market given a transition period to 31st December 2010. Investigation needs to be carried out to see if the market volumes could be achieved for a July 1st deadline.

To put the issue in context, the industry anticipate that 8-10 products can be tested per year and currently there are 40 on Clear Skies.

Biomass

The standards are established.

There is not perceived to be an issue requiring a transition period, however, if the issue did arise a case by case basis would work.

Annex 1 – The Declaration

This declaration applies only to the installation of MCS transitional products installed within the UK market where the manufacturer (or product company) have sold it as an MCS transitional scheme product, and does not apply to transitional products installed outside the UK.

I, (Director of Company Ltd), declare that,

Whenever any organization promotes, advertises or offers for sale any Transition List product, that organisation will ensure the following text is prominently displayed:

“Please note that (XXX PRODUCT) has been classified as a ‘Transition Product’ under the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS).”

MCS transitional products may be removed from the MCS Transitional Arrangement (MCS-TA) by the MCS Transitional Evaluation Team (TET) following a 30 day consultation between the TET, the associated manufacturer (or product company), and the associated Certification Body.

A transitional product will be removed from MCS Transitional Arrangements on the following basis:

1. The transitional product fails to satisfy MCS-TA registration requirements in accordance with technology specific time requirements, or;
2. The transitional product fails to satisfy full MCS certification in accordance with technology specific time requirements, or;
3. The transitional product develops serious issues during the transitional period such that the transitional product is deemed unlikely to satisfy full MCS certification, or;
4. The transitional product’s manufacturer, or associate product company, submits a written request for the removal of the related product from MCS-TA to the TET.

Should a transitional product be removed from the MCS-TA, the associated manufacturer (or product company) must undertake the following:

1. Provide the customer, and installation company, with full disclosure as to the removal of the product from MCS-TA, and;

2. Agree with the customer to either:
 - a) Enact remedial work with regard to the customer's product such that the customer is satisfied, or;
 - b) Provide a refund of the cost of the product (excluding installation costs) to the customer or the installer, or;
 - c) Act as otherwise agreed with the customer and installer.

Should the fully certified product possess performance characteristics significantly different from a related transitional product, the associate manufacturer (or product company) must undertake the following:

1. Provide the customer, and installation company, with full disclosure as to the differences between the MCS-TA product and the Certified Product, and;
2. Agree with the customer to either:
 - a) Enact remedial work with regard to the customer's product such that the customer is satisfied, or;
 - b) Provide a refund of the cost of the product (excluding installation costs) to the customer or the installer, or;
 - c) Act as otherwise agreed with the customer and installer.

Should a transitional product not complete full certification in accordance with technology specific time requirements, the associate manufacturer (or product company) must undertake the following:

1. Provide the customer, and installation company, with full disclosure as to the removal of the product from MCS-TA, and;
2. Agree with the customer to either:
 - a) Enact remedial work with regard to the customer's product such that the customer is satisfied, or;
 - b) Provide a refund of the cost of the product (excluding installation costs) to the customer or the installer, or;
 - c) Act as otherwise agreed with the customer and installer.

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

Transition List: This is a list of products whose manufacturers are working towards MCS Certification, and which remain on the MCS Product List for so long as they continue satisfy MCS-TA registration requirements in accordance with technology specific time requirements. See <http://www.microgenerationcertification.org/Transitional+Arrangements>

Installer: An organisation certificated under the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) that is responsible for all of the following activities: supply, design or design review, installation, set to work and commissioning of Microgeneration systems and technologies.

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

Manufacturer (or product company): The company that signs The Declaration.

ANNEX 2 – TEMPLATE FOR PROVISION OF WIND TURBINE DATA

MCS Transitional Arrangements – Phase 2 Criteria

Wind Product [insert product name] and Model [insert model]

Details of Certification Body Contract

Company Applying: _____

Manufacturer: _____

Turbine in MCS Transition Arrangements (description and model):

Date contract signed with Certification Body (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

Details of MCS Transitional Arrangements Declaration

Please provide brief details of the MCS Transitional Arrangements Declaration.

For example: [Insert manufacturer name] have signed the MCS Transitional Arrangements Declaration – Signed by [insert name], Chairman / Director on [insert date (dd/mm/yyyy)].

[Insert manufacturer name] have stipulated caveats which are available from [insert manufacturer name] on request.

Power Performance:

The following is to be covered:

- A rated power (in kW) at 11m/s derived from the binned wind speed power curve
- An AEP (in kWhr) at 5 m/s derived from the binned wind speed power curve
- A scatter plot of the 'real field data' that is used to derive the binned wind speed power curve – **Not predictions or wind tunnel data**
- The binned wind speed power curve itself

Power Performance Scatter Plot:

Does your product have a Scatter Plot?

Yes

No

If you have answered yes above, please supply a copy of this scatter plot.

Power Performance from Binned Wind Speed Data:

Does your product have a power performance curve from binned wind speed data?

Yes

No

If you have answered yes above, please supply a copy of this binned wind speed power curve.

Is this information available in the public domain?

Yes

No

Please supply us with a link to, or details of, where this information is available in the public domain:

Safety and Function Criteria

Please provide a narrative that includes all aspects of the safety and function requirements of both the BWEA Small Systems Safety and Performance Standard and IEC 61400-2 2006.

For example:

[Insert product and model name] has met all of the requirements of the safety and function aspects of the BWEA Small Systems Safety and Performance Standard 29 Feb 2008 and also IEC 61400-2: 2006.

Declaration of Accuracy:

I, [insert director or chairman name] confirm that to my knowledge the information contained in this document is accurate at this time [insert date] and is to be used in conjunction with [insert product name and model]'s application to remain on the MCS Transition Arrangements list until further notice.

Print Name: _____

Company and Position in Company: _____

Signature: _____

Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

AMENDMENTS ISSUED SINCE PUBLICATION

DOCUMENT NO.	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DATE
1.0	Document issued for first time	11/12/2009
2.0	The final version of the declaration to be signed by the manufacturer, and a restatement of the transition criteria for wind, have been added to this document.	19/02/2010
3.0	New product transitional arrangements criteria for micro-hydro turbines and Product transitional arrangements for photovoltaic products been added to this document.	08/03/2010
4.0	Clarification of the Phase 2 requirements for wind technologies. Some grammatical and drafting corrections to improve readability	28/04/2010
5.0	Clarification of Hydro Transition timeframes. Some grammatical and drafting corrections to improve readability	25/06/2010
5.1	Correction to drafting error in Hydro transition timeframes	28/06/2010