



MCS Quarterly Newsletter

In the February Issue.....

In this edition of the MCS newsletter MCS and Ofgem remind installers about the Energy-related Products Directive, RHI and the FIT scheme.

There is also an overview on the "Guidance on Batteries and Solar Power" that was put together by RECC and the BRE NSC. Along with the usual Scheme updates on MCS Statistics, reminders on checking which products have been withdrawn, events and planned MCS Installation Database maintenance.

If you are not on our mailing list yet, you can [subscribe here](#).

MCS Statistics

Number of MCS Installation Statistics

Technology	Total to date
Air Source Heat Pumps	41,533
Biomass	15,259
Exhaust Air Source Heat Pumps	433
Ground/Water Source Heat Pumps	11,184
Micro CHP	652
Micro Hydro	68
Small Wind	4,927
Solar PV	784,000
Solar Thermal (inc Solar Keymark products used)	28,567

Number of MCS Certified Installers Statistics

Month	Joining Scheme	Leaving Scheme
Jan-15	92	74
Feb-15	82	148
Mar-15	122	198
Apr-15	106	137
May-15	83	180
Jun-15	102	234
Jul-15	75	97
Aug-15	54	199
Sept-15	64	127
Oct-15	75	176
Nov-15	60	127
Dec-15	52	109
Jan-16	31	230

The functionality "submit an enquiry" allows consumers to send an enquiry directly to an installer via the [MCS website](#). The enquiries are sent to the email address that is registered with your Certification Body. The table on the right details how many emails have been generated through this functionality.

Website Subscribers Statistics

Month	Emails Generated	No. of Installation Companies Contacted
Oct - 2015	306	279
Nov - 2015	314	277
Dec - 2015	95	90
Jan - 2016	80	75

Please visit the [website](#) for further information on Statistics.



ASHP



Biomass



EAHP



GAHP



GS/WSHP



Micro CHP



Roof Mounting



SAHP



Solar PV



Solar T



Wind

Reminder: Energy-related Products (ErP) Directive (2009/125/EC)

As we are now in February, MCS would like to take this opportunity to remind MCS Heat Pump Contractors that the transition period that has been in place since 26th September 2015 for the Ecodesign of Energy-related Products Directive, will be coming to an end in March.

From 26th March 2016, MCS Contractors will only be able to use Product Seasonal Performance (SCOP/SPER) data for heat pump installations.

Where to get the SCOP data from?

The SCOP data will be provided by the Product Manufacturer to their Certification Body (CB) for MCS to upload to the MID. It is important to note that if SCOP data is NOT provided by an MCS Manufacturer to their CB by 25th March, then the product will be automatically removed from the list of MCS approved products.

Therefore, MCS Contractors should continue to regularly check the [product list](#) on the MCS Website to ensure that any product you wish to install is still listed.

How the changes affect the MCS Installation Database (MID)?

Until 26th March 2016, there are two options for the MCS Contractor to select for product performance when registering an installation on the MID:

- The Heat Emitter Guide SPF; OR
- Product Seasonal Performance.

If 'Heat Emitter Guide SPF' is selected, the following appears with a drop down selection of values:

Please confirm whether annual energy performance has been calculated using Heat Emitter Guide SPF or the product's seasonal performance *:

Heat Emitter Guide SPF
 Product Seasonal Performance

Please enter the Heat Emitter Guide SPF - i.e. the SPF figure that will be used to calculate DRHI payments derived from the Heat Emitter Guide Temperature Star rating for the worst performing room using the heating circuit flow temperature (the design temperature of water leaving the heat pump when providing space heating) *:

--No Value--

If 'Product Seasonal Performance' is selected, the following appears with a selection of flow temperatures from 35°C – 65°C which automatically populates a SCOP value. As an MCS Contractor, you do not need to provide or access any SCOP data, only select a flow temperature.

Please confirm whether annual energy performance has been calculated using Heat Emitter Guide SPF or the product's seasonal performance *:

Heat Emitter Guide SPF
 Product Seasonal Performance

Product Seasonal Performance :

Product	Flow Temperature	SCOP
(MCS HP0002/20) Ecodan	37°C	3.88

From the 26th March, only the 'Product Seasonal Performance' will be available.

Additional ErP requirements: How to generate a label?

ErP - RHI

It is important to note that the heat pump may not perform at every temperature so please check to make sure a SCOP value is provided. A requirement for the RHI is that a minimum SCOP value of 2.5 must be achieved.

For more information please see the [Domestic RHI ErP helpsheet](#).

All products supplied by manufacturers must have a product label and a product fiche.

Installers must use this to produce a package label and fiche with the combined energy efficiency rating of all installed products. This must be supplied to customers.

Many manufacturers will provide support, training and energy label generators on their websites. Energy Labelling directives have examples of labels and fiche (See Annex 3 and 4):

- Energy labelling (space heaters) – [811/2013](#)
- Energy labelling (water heaters) – [812/2013](#)
- Energy label generator - [click here](#)

'Batteries and Solar Power: Guidance for domestic and small commercial consumers'.

This new guide explains the types of battery storage on the market and how they fit with existing or new solar PV systems. It explains how much electricity a typical system will store and under what circumstances and the expected lifetime.

The guide goes on to explain what happens to battery storage systems in winter, when they might need to take charge from the grid, the different ways they can be connected to a solar PV system and whether they will work during a power cut.

Finally the guide contains a list of 20 questions which consumers should be sure to ask their battery storage installer before agreeing to the contract.

The guide was launched by the [Renewable Energy Consumer Code](#) and [BRE National Solar Centre \(NSC\)](#).

You can download the guide [here](#) or hard copies are available on request at info@recc.org.uk.



Feed-in Tariff (FIT) Deployment Caps FAQs

Following the announcement regarding the changes to the FIT scheme, Ofgem put out a draft 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQ) document to help explain how the changes affect MCS-scale installations.

The document was circulated to Ofgem stakeholders with a month long period given for feedback.

Ofgem have now collated and reviewed the responses submitted. These responses were then used to make amendments to the draft version FAQ document.

The final version has now been published on the Ofgem website, along with a response document detailing the changes between the two. To access these documents please [click here](#).

Feed-in Tariff Scheme

Notification of FIT Installations to District Network Operators (DNO)

Page 82 of the [FITs Government Response](#) highlights that as distribution network capacity is being used up, it is becoming increasingly important for Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) to know what generation is connected to their networks. It helps with network planning and saves consumers money by helping DNOs to assess the need for future network investment. In addition notification to DNOs is a legal requirement.

DNOs report that up to 40% of installations claiming the Feed in Tariff (FIT) have not been notified to the relevant DNO. With the aim of increasing the number of notified installations, a new question has been included on the FIT application form requiring the applicant to confirm that the DNO has been notified. It is therefore recommended that all MCS Contactors provide their customer with evidence that the installation has been notified to the DNO in order for the customer to confidently declare that it has been notified.

Further to this, DNOs now have the ability to cross check their notification records with the installation records contained within the Central Feed in Tariff Register (CFR). Installations found on the CFR that have not been notified to the relevant DNO can be passed to MCS for further investigation.

Further information on the DNO requirements is on page 20 of the [G83/2 Connection Guide](#). The installation notification form is at Appendix 3. You can also contact the relevant [DNO](#) with any questions.

Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive

Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI): Ongoing Obligations

The Domestic RHI team at Ofgem would like to remind you to alert your customers, who are applying to the Domestic RHI, to their [ongoing obligations](#). The participant must remain compliant with these to continue receiving payments. One example is that the participant must let Ofgem E-serve know within 28 days if their heating system stops working such that it is unable to generate heat.

Each participant of the scheme will need to complete an annual declaration to confirm that they are remaining compliant with these obligations and they'll get an email reminder when these are due.

Guidance: Metering for the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

For most people joining the domestic RHI they won't need to install meters and submit meter readings to receive payments.

However, homes that have been lived in for less than half the year must be metered. This includes second homes or tenanted properties which have been empty for six months in the last year. It will need to be declared on the application form if the home is occupied for less than 183 days a year.

For newly built houses, they will still need to comply with the Scheme's 183 day occupancy rules. For example, if they are a custom-builder and have occupied the property for less than 183 days, they either will need to be metered for payment or can apply after having lived in the property for 183 days to be eligible without needing metering. For more information about custom-build eligibility criteria see Ofgem's custom build factsheet.

[Ofgem's Metering for the Domestic RHI webpage](#)
[Ofgem's Custom build factsheet](#)



Ofgem E-serve is now on Twitter and LinkedIn

Ofgem E-Serve has recently launched two new social media channels – Twitter and LinkedIn – and will be providing news and updates for stakeholders. These tools will provide a range of useful insight and information about the various government schemes Ofgem E-serve administer, including the Domestic RHI.

You can follow us on Twitter [@ofgem_erserve](#) and our [LinkedIn page](#).

Reminder: Withdrawn MCS Products

As an MCS Contractor it is your responsibility to check that your inventory of MCS Products are still certified by checking the MCS withdrawn spreadsheet on a weekly basis.

If a product is on the withdrawn spreadsheet, it may have been recertified by a different Certification Body, you can check by searching for the product by manufacturer and model name on the [Product Search page](#). Please note you are only able to register the version purchased with the Certification Bodies listing.

MCS Products that have been withdrawn from certification are available in section 3 on this [page](#).

Please note the last date you can register a certificate using one of the products, is listed on the spreadsheet in **Column I**.

MCS Installation Database (MID) - Planned Maintenance

There is a planned 48 hours maintenance outage. The MID will be taken offline from midnight Tuesday 1st March through to 9am Thursday 3rd March 2016. The MID will not be accessible during this period.

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause to your working day.

To find out about future updates regarding the MID please [check here](#).

Ecobuild 2016

MCS is pleased to confirm our attendance at Ecobuild 2016 (8-10 March), a world leading event for sustainable design, construction, energy and the build environment.

All exhibitors and seminars will be in one hall, improving the visitor experience. Ecobuild 2016 have also announced that they have invested in two major experiential features:

- **SMART** feature will explore intelligent building technology for both residential and commercial use, as well as smart infrastructure and urban development.
- **DISCOVER** feature will feature a central bar and networking space, bring cutting edge products and the world's latest building technologies and materials together in a futuristic showcase to educate and inspire visitors.

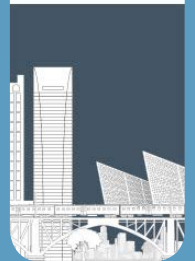
The MCS stand can be found at **E4272**.

For further information and to register, please visit www.ecobuild.co.uk.

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ecobuild
design | construct | perform

08-10
MARCH
2016
EXCEL
LONDON



James Timbs-Harrison's Rowing Adventure

James Timbs-Harrison (from Mitsubishi) and three friends recently took part in the [Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge](#), rowing 3000 nautical miles unaided across the Atlantic Ocean.

They were raising money for two fantastic charities;

Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and Cystic Fibrosis.

If you would like to find out more about how they got on, or donate to these two charities please visit the links below:

- <http://www.allbeansnomonkeys.com/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/allbeansnomonkeys/>
- <https://twitter.com/beansmonkeys?lang=en-gb>
- <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=allbeansnomonkeys>

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