

In the June Issue.....

In this edition of the MCS newsletter, MCS provides an update on the Scheme's structure, along with how you can get involved with the technical working groups.

There is also an overview of the current mCHP consultation launched by DECC in May, information about the Battery Storage & Solar PV webinar RECC are running and reminders of some of our most popular FAQs.

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

MCS Statistics (up until 31st May 2016)

Number of MCS Installation Statistics	
Technology	Total
Air Source Heat Pumps	46,157
Biomass	16,599
Exhaust Air Source Heat Pumps	435
Ground/Water Source Heat Pumps	12,523
Micro CHP	665
Micro Hydro	68
Small Wind	5,041
Solar PV	866,832
Solar Thermal (inc Solar Keymark products used)	29,496
Overall Total	977,812

Since the MCS Installation Database (MID) has been in place we have had the ability to record how many installations MCS Contractors carry out. As you can see we are now not far off reaching one million installations, which is such a huge achievement for the Scheme.

Well done!!

Number of MCS Certified Contractors Statistics*		
Month	Joining Scheme	Leaving Scheme
Mar-16	39	640
Apr-16	30	225
May-16	21	225

Total Number of MCS Contractors up until 31st May 2016:

2,682

**Please note, the Scheme has received additional data from Certification Bodies regarding the precise reason for removed members.*

We are therefore able to produce a more accurate report for the total number of permanently removed installation companies.

Previously suspensions on the Scheme counted against the total number of removed Contractors and were not included in the total remaining once reinstated. Using the only new data obtained we can only present stats from March 2016 onwards.



ASHP



Biomass



EAHP



GAHP



GS/WSHP



Micro CHP



Roof Mounting



SAHP



Solar PV



Solar T



Wind

Update on the new MCS Structure

A key focus of MCS over the past 18 months has been establishing the MCS Charitable Foundation (MCS CF) and the enduring structure of its legal entity (MCSSCo Ltd).

The role of the MCS CF will be to provide both confidence and trust in renewable and low carbon technologies, whilst ensuring focus remains on consumer and environmental protection.

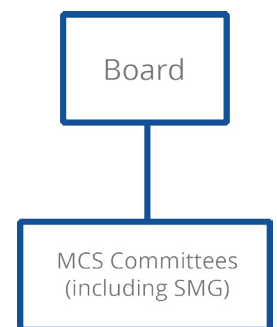
- In August 2015, six Trustees were appointed to serve on the inaugural board of the MCS CF. For further information on the Trustees please visit: <http://www.microgenerationcertification.org/about-us/news-and-events>
- Four new Board Director designates have been selected for the MCSSCo Ltd and an additional two MCSSCo Ltd Directors have been appointed from the Board of Trustees of the MCS CF.
- The Charity Commission have approved MCS' application for charitable status. MCS have received a response from Companies House and the charity has been incorporated into the MCSSCo.
- The Novation process is ongoing and following completion, the Director Designates will be officially appointed to the MCSSCo.

MCS CF will take full ownership of the MCSSCo Ltd, which will comprise of the following structure (see right) until the new Board put in place the future governance arrangements for the Scheme.

The MCSSCo Ltd will operate the certification scheme and the MCS CF will have oversight of the MCSSCo, but focus on utilising the MCS surplus income for the public benefit as laid out in its Articles of Association and Objects.

A new Stakeholder Advisory Group will be established to operate in an advisory capacity to support the MCSSCo Board, and work this Group's Terms of Reference has already begun. The MCS Steering Group was agreed to be disbanded back in April 2016.

For updates regarding the status of the MCS CF and MCSSCo, please check the [MCS website](#).



Standard Update: MCS 012 Issue 2.1

In April MCS published an updated version of MCS 012 ([Product Certification Scheme Requirements - Pitched Roof Installation Kits - Issue 2.1](#)).



- The update to the Standard relates to an extension of the implementation timeline relating to existing certified MCS 012 products.
- Please also read the 'MCS 012 Fire Performance of Pitched Roof Mounted Solar' document for more details.

The standard is mandatory for MCS Contractors installing Solar PV products from 2nd May. MCS Contractors installing Solar Thermal products may also select MCS 012 products as a route to meeting building regulations if they wish to do so.

Last week, the MCS Installation Database (MID) was updated to allow MCS Contractors to select which MCS 012 products they have used with their Solar PV installations.

Please visit our website to view version 2.1 of MCS 012 which will also inform you that the 2nd of August 2016 deadline only applies to manufacturers with existing certified MCS 012 products to provide additional data to their Certification Body.

Recipient Name:

Recipient E-mail Address:

Recipient Telephone Number:

Product:

Commissioning date:

Technology Type:

Please confirm the use of MCS 012 pitched roof installation kit as part of the installation.

Yes

Not Applicable (e.g. the installation is on a flat roof or is a ground mounted system)

Search Products:

Feed-in Tariff Scheme

FiTs Consultation on micro CHP support launched on 26 May

The Feed-in Tariffs (FiTs) scheme is the Government's subsidy scheme for generation of renewable electricity from small-scale installations. The UK is obliged by our EU State Aid notification to consult on the performance of the scheme every three years.

As the core FiTs Review consultation in 2015 did not seek views on whether generation tariffs for anaerobic digestion (AD) or micro-combined heat and power (mCHP) continue to give investors an appropriate rate of return and prevent overcompensation, the Government has launched a "Review of support for Anaerobic Digestion and micro-Combined Heat and Power under the Feed-in Tariffs scheme" consultation on 26th May 2016.

The key micro-CHP proposals outlined are:

- A deployment cap of 3.6MW to the end of 2018/19
- This is broken into annual caps
- 10% contingent degression of the tariff should an annual cap be met
- The current tariff is not changed

You can read the full consultation [here](#).

If you would like to respond to the consultation you can either respond online, by email or post.

Online: https://econsultation.decc.gov.uk/decc-policy/review-of-support-for-anaerobic-digestion-and-micr/consult_view

Email: ADmCHPreview@decc.gsi.gov.uk

Post: FiTs Review Team, Clean Electricity Directorate, Department of Energy & Climate Change, 4th Floor Area D, 3 Whitehall Place, London, SW1A 2AW

Please note the consultation will close on **Thursday 7 July at 23.45**.



Number of FIT installations surpasses 750,000*

From January to March this year, 45,180 new installations were accredited under the feed-in tariff (FIT) scheme, according to Ofgem's latest quarterly report. Published on Wednesday 8 June, this showed that 356.7MW of capacity was accredited during this period, of which 81.9% was solar power.

While the number of installations fell marginally compared to the final quarter of 2015, over 26% more capacity was accredited from January to March, up from 281.2MW. The quarter brought the number of accredited systems to over 750,000, totalling 4.4GW, and saw over £223mn of payments made to generators.

Ofgem

*Source: Daily Bulletin Cornwall Energy (9th June 2016)

For a list of all our FAQs please visit our [website](#).

Reminders: Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Where can I find more information on what repairs and maintenance I can carry out on my Feed-in Tariff or Renewable Heat Incentive installation?

Answer:

Feed-in Tarrif (FIT) installations:

This information can be found in Chapter 8 of the [FIT guidance for licensed electricity suppliers](#).

Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) installations:

This information can be found under the below sections of [Ofgem's DRHI reference document](#):

- Refurbished equipment
- Relevant parts
- Replacing or repairing equipment

Question: Do systems being registered on the MCS Installation Database need to meet the current version of the MCS standard?

Answer: Installations must be compliant with standard in force on the date of commissioning. You can find archived versions of the standards [here](#).

Question: How do I add a another technology to my scope?

Answer: You will need to contact the Certification Body that originally carried out your assessment. They will organise another assessment for the new technology you wish to add.

Question: We're replacing the generation meter for an installation - who do I need to tell?

Answer: You will need to tell the customer's energy supplier. The energy supplier may request photographic evidence of the meter change. It is recommended that you take a photo of the original meter that shows the generation meter serial number and the meter reading and then the same photo of the new meter.

Question: Is it OK for me (an MCS Contractor) to attend an install completed and commissioned by a different non-MCS Contractor, check it and raise a certificate?

Answer: If the customer used a non-MCS company to begin with and the system was installed/commissioned by the non-MCS company, then at present there is nothing under MCS which would prevent you (the Contractor) raising an installation certificate. In this case you (the MCS Contractor) can recommission the installation, but the customer will not be eligible for the incentives based on the legislation which refers to "First Commissioning". The question on the MCS Installation Database (MID) asking about whether the installation was new at the time of commissioning should be ticked no if you have raised an MCS certificate for an installation done by a non-MCS company to begin with.

In the circumstance where the installation was only part completed by the non-MCS company and you (an MCS Contractor) has been asked to complete the work and commission the installation; provided that you enter into a new contract with the customer and completes the installation ensuring it meets all of the relevant MCS requirements, the installation can be registered with MCS and an MCS certificate issued. In such cases you (the MCS Contractor) are fully responsible for the installation and the question on the MID asking about whether the installation was new at the time of commissioning should be ticked yes. The customer may then qualify for the incentives, provided they have met all of the eligibility requirements.

MCS Technical Working Groups

MCS are looking for people to become members of the below working groups:

- Biomass
- Roofing
- Solar PV
- Solar Thermal

If you would like to register your interest in joining one of these working groups please complete this [form](#) and email your completed form to mcsmeetings@gemserv.com.

MCS Needs You!

RECC Annual Report

Each year RECC publishes an Annual Report which details all its activities and achievements over the previous year. With a wealth of statistics you can see the breadth of RECC's work including the way in which it promotes the Code, develops services to help its members, monitors compliance with the Code and takes action where it become aware of non-compliance.

The annual report is provided to the Consumer Codes Approval Scheme, run since 2013 by the Chartered Trading Standards Institute. You can find the most recent report for 2015, as well as previous reports, [here](#).

BRE Global - Installer Certification

As of the 1st of June 2016, BRE Global have ceased certifying installers under the scheme. Arrangements have been made for existing members to transfer over to other MCS accredited Certification Bodies. Certification Bodies accredited for the scheme have been advised to ensure they contact BRE and follow the transfer process in place to ensure conformity to regulatory standards.

Please note BRE are still continuing to certifying products under the scheme.

E V E N T S Webinar: Battery Storage & Solar PV

On Tuesday 28th June RECC will be running a webinar on battery storage for Solar PV in the home.

Battery storage can potentially help your domestic customers use more of the electricity generated by their PV system, saving them money on their electricity bill. Battery storage systems can be installed with new Solar PV systems, or retrofitted to existing systems.

As prices continue to fall and the technology improves, battery storage looks like being a growth sector. But they are not for everyone. Mis-selling or poor installations could kill the market before it's really taken off.

RECC has worked with experts in the field to draft detailed guidance for members and for consumers. You can find all available materials [here](#).

This webinar aims to:

- update you on the background to recent developments;
- take you through the guidance from RECC that is available to help you and your customers if you are already in, or are considering getting into, the market; and
- highlight other guidance available or in the pipeline that could assist you.

The session will take place on Tuesday 28 June at 9.30am. To register for the webinar please click [here](#).

MCS Industry Survey - Thank You

Following the recent MCS Industry Survey, Portland Communications would like to thank you for taking the time to complete their survey or telephone interview. They really appreciated your input.

Your views about MCS, the role the scheme plays, the services they provide and how MCS can support you in future, have been incredibly useful.

The winner of the prize draw has been contacted separately.

If you have any further questions about the research Portland Communications are undertaking then please contact:

Christopher Capper at christopher.capper@portland-communications.com

Newsletter Feedback?

Please send through to mcs@gemserv.com