



# MCS Quarterly Newsletter

## In the October Issue.....

In this edition of the MCS newsletter, MCS provides important updates on MCS 012, along with useful information on compliance certificates, updates on the financial incentives, new processes for certificate amendments and how to update your contact details.

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

## MCS Statistics (up until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016)

Number of MCS Installation Statistics	
Technology	Total
Air Source Heat Pumps	49,539
Biomass	17,065
Exhaust Air Source Heat Pumps	433
Ground/Water Source Heat Pumps	13,594
Micro CHP	744
Micro Hydro	68
Small Wind	5,061
Solar PV	883,581
Solar Thermal (inc Solar Keymark products used)	30,198
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>1,000,283</b>

**Total Number of MCS Contractors up until September 2016:**

**2,519**

Website Subscribers Statistics - since July 2016	
Month	Emails Generated
July 2016	73
August 2016	91
September 2016	91

The function "submit an enquiry" allows consumers to send an enquiry directly to an MCS Contractor via the MCS website. The enquiries are sent to the email address that is registered with your Certification Body. The table above details how many emails have been generated using this functionality.



## 1 Million Milestone



We are delighted to announce that over 1 million MCS certified systems have now been installed!

MCS was launched 10 years ago and is an important certification scheme for making a significant contribution to cutting the UK's dependency on fossil fuels and carbon dioxide emissions.

The Scheme remains committed to upholding robust standards and providing consumers with the assurance that their installations meet their quality expectations.

We hope you will join us in celebrating this significant milestone!



ASHP



Biomass



EAHP



GAHP



GS/WSHP



Micro CHP



Roof Mounting



SAHP



Solar PV



Solar T



Wind

## Certificate Amendments

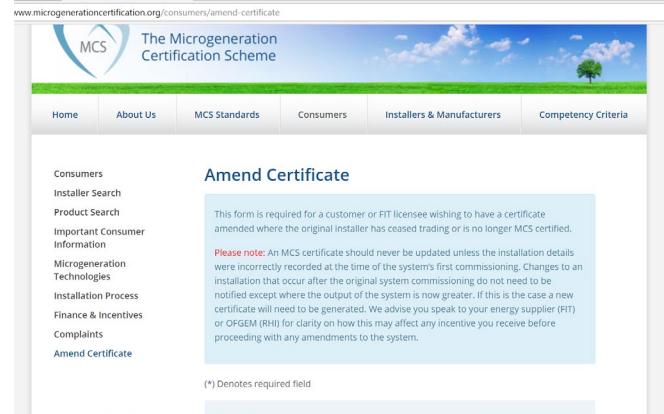
Since the beginning of this year, there has been a considerable increase in the number of certificate amendment requests made by consumers and Energy Suppliers to the Scheme.

Due to this rise in activity, the MCS Administrator has created an online request form to help streamline the process and deal with the requests more efficiently.

From 1st of November 2016, the Scheme will only accept requests through the website or by post. If you are a FIT Licensee, we will be writing to you to formally notify you of this procedure next week.

Please note that the certificate amendment process is only intended for system owners who have discovered that their certificates contain incorrect information when the system was originally installed and their installer is no longer certified.

To request an amendment please click [here](#) to be taken through to the online submission form. Your request will be dealt with within 5 working days.



## Free Solar PV Maintenance/Health Checks - Misrepresentation Update

Since our last update in August this year, the number of reported incidents of installation and maintenance companies misrepresenting the scheme has decreased dramatically.

Although this is good news, the issue is still ongoing and we continue to advise consumers who have been affected to contact Citizens Advice on 03454 040 506.

Trading Standards Essex, an area very much affected by these scams, are advising citizens to be aware of maintenance companies and rogue traders operating in the area on an ongoing basis.

They have uploaded a series of YouTube web clips which can be viewed at the below links:

- Rogue traders: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sZom540ipY>
- Scams: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLipNSm0tP4>



# RHI & FITs

## RHI Regulations Changes

MCS and the wider renewable industry is awaiting the publication of the Government response expected in Autumn in relation to the [RHI Consultation](#) which closed in April 2016.

In the meantime, we would like to draw your attention to the package of changes which came into effect in March 2016.

The changes relate to:

1. Green Deal Assessments
2. New Build Properties – 183 Day Occupancy
3. Tariff Indexation
4. Degression Triggers
5. Land Criteria Requirements
6. Administrative Amendments to the Domestic RHI
7. Further information can be found [here](#).

## Re-commissioning

We would like to remind installers that any MCS system which has been re-commissioned will not be eligible for RHI and FIT payments.

No part of the renewable system used to produce energy may have been used before the first commissioning date.

More information on RHI eligibility criteria is available on Ofgem's [Factsheet: An introduction to the Domestic RHI](#).

## Notifications to Ofgem

Customers receiving DRHI payments have ongoing obligations which require notification to Ofgem in the following 6 situations:

1. To notify Ofgem regarding any changes to the heating system that affect DRHI eligibility.
2. To make sure the renewable technology is in good working order.
3. To notify Ofgem regarding any change in ownership of the renewable technology.
4. To notify Ofgem regarding any change in circumstances that might affect the customer's eligibility to receive payments.
5. To use permitted fuels for biomass technologies.
6. To ensure the DRHI scheme can be effectively administered and evaluated.

**It is important that MCS Contractors inform their customers of these obligations.**

For more information, please refer to the [DRHI Essential Guide for Applicants](#).

# MCS 012 Important Updates

## MCS 012 V2.1 Implementation Timeline

The mandatory implementation date [02/08/2016] for manufacturers or importers who have products that were certified to Issue 1.2 of MCS 012 has passed.

All MCS certified Contractor companies installing in line with the requirements of MIS 3002, which refers to MCS 012, are required to use MCS 012 approved products (where applicable) from 2nd May 2016.

Non-compliant products should now be removed from the Scheme.

All MCS certified Contractor companies installing in line with the requirements of MIS 3001 which refer to MCS 012, can use MCS 012 approved products (where applicable) as a way of meeting the building regulations.

## Product Search Page – Performance Data

The product search pages for MCS 012 approved kits have been amended to accommodate product performance data.

Where Certification Bodies have received and provided MCS with product performance data, this will be featured on the MCS search page for that product.

Where data has not been received, the field will read “See Manufacturers Website” as shown to the right.

We request that Certification Bodies provide this data in the weekly product spreadsheets provided to MCS so that it can be uploaded to the [MCS website](#).

Range of Permissible Roof Pitch (degrees)	See Manufacturers Website	
Compatible Roof Coverings	See Manufacturers Website	
Roofing Substrate	Min rafter size (h x w mm)	Min batten size (h x w mm)
For certified wind uplift resistance in sound timber	See Manufacturers Website	See Manufacturers Website
Further notes on fixing (where relevant)	See Manufacturers Website	
Maximum Design Wind Uplift	See Manufacturers Website	
Calculated by dividing the characteristic wind uplift by the partial safety factor shown below	See Manufacturers Website	
Partial (safety) factor(s)	See Manufacturers Website	
Fire Classification	BS476-3:2004	EN 13501-5:2005+A1:2009
Limitations on Fire Classification	See Manufacturers Website	See Manufacturers Website

## Version 3.0 of Important information on MCS 012 Issue 2.1

Please note that Version 3.0 of Important information on MCS 012 Issue 2.1 for MCS Solar Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Contractors has now been published.

Amendments to the guidance have been made to clarify the requirements for quotes and contracts that spanned the implementation period for MCS 012 approved kits.

The document is available [here](#).



# MCS Reminders

## Compliance Certificates

MCS has noticed that a number of installers have uploaded Compliance Certificates incorrectly when registering an installation on the MCS Installation Database (MID).

We would like to remind MCS Contractors that it is a requirement in the MCS heat technology installer standards for a Compliance Certificate to be uploaded for the following technologies:

- Solar Thermal: [MIS 3001](#) Clauses 6.2, Appendix B
- Biomass: [MIS 3004](#) Clause 6.2.1
- Heat Pumps: [MIS 3005](#) Clauses 4.5.3, 6.1

Compliance Certificates are a mandatory requirement for heat generating technologies and record key information relating to the installation. It is therefore important that the Compliance Certificates are filled out correctly for auditing purposes. Please ensure that you refer to the relevant technology installer standards for guidance on completing the certificates.

Copies of the Compliance Certificates templates are available [here](#).



## Updating MCS Contractor or Manufacturer Details

Please note that if any of your company details change such as website, name or email address, please inform your Certification Body who will amend their records accordingly.

The Certification Bodies update MCS of any changes to installer or product details on a weekly basis, and MCS are unable to make any changes to this information outside of this process.

## Newsletter Feedback?

Please send through to  
[mcs@gemserv.com](mailto:mcs@gemserv.com)