

Standards Consultation Forum
Notes and Actions
Wednesday 2nd June 2021 at 10.00am
Teams Meeting

1. Attendance

Trevor Smallpeice (TS)	TS Enterprises (Chair)
Richard Harper (RH)	Energy & Utility Skills (Secretariat)
Tony Ganner (TG)	Plumbers Teachers Association
David Whitehead (DW)	NCC
Neil Macdonald (NM)	HHIC
Ella Cooper (EC)	ICOM
Brett Johnson (BJ)	British Gas
Neill Ovenden (NO)	Certification Bodies
Graeme Dryden (GD)	APHC
Malcolm Greetham (MGr)	Energy & Utility Skills
David Smith (DJ)	Gas Safe Register
Peter Hurst (PHu)	IGEM
Jessica Jarvis (JJ)	GDN's
Peter Platten (PP)	GILG
Sunendra PV (SPV)	IGEM
Paul Hull (PH)	Commercia Group

Apologies

Gavin Jones	BSI
Steve McConnell	ICOM
John Forrest (JF)	GILG
Richard Hakeem (RHa)	Liquid Gas UK
Martyn Raine (MR)	SNIPEF
Peter Fawbert	Large Business Forum

2. Minutes and actions from previous SCF meeting (03.03.21)

The minutes were approved by the attendees.

The actions were confirmed as closed or included within today's agenda

3. SCF Terms of Reference

No comments were received relating to the draft terms of reference that were circulated for review after the March SCF meeting. It was agreed to sign off the ToR once the revised wording for 'standing members j' had been received.

Action RH: Liaise with the ABC representatives to provide suitable wording for standing members 'j' (Awarding Bodies delivering Matters of Gas Safety (MoGs) qualifications)

3.1. SCF Membership List

The membership list was reviewed, and the majority of members had confirmed that their details were correct. **TS** suggested all those that have not responded are contacted individually asap and those that did not reply are removed from the list as it could be assumed, they were not interested in joining the meetings.

Action TS/RH: Contact the members that have not responded to confirm their details are correct.

4 Standards Update**4.1 IGEM Update**

Sunendra PV provided an update on IGEM standards under review, details are contained within IGEM-TSP-21-204 which will be circulated with the minutes

4.2 BSI

RH provided an update supplied by Gavin Jones: We are meeting to discuss the way forward with a number of panels and GSE/30 standards, and that there will likely be a "hydrogen" committee formed soon.

4.3 Liquid Gas UK

RHa provided an update via email: A revision of CoP22 will be circulated to Energy & Utility Skills shortly. **DW informed** the group that BSEN 1949 (*Specification for the installation of LPG systems for habitation purposes in leisure accommodation vehicles and accommodation purposes in other vehicles*) is out for public comment for a period of 2 months.

5 Changes to MoGS

5.1 Summary of changes

MGr updated the group on the changes required to matters of gas safety following Industry Standard Updates:

A refresh of British Standard BS 8446 meant an update of the Commercial Laundry Core and Appliance Element has been made.

- CCLNG1
- CLE1

The new Liquid Gas UK CoP32 specifications referenced in the update to:

- CCLPI LAV
- CoNGLP1 LAV

The revision of Liquid Gas UK CoP22 specifications will require changes to:

- VESLP1
- VESLP2
- CCLP1 EP
- CCLP1 EPC

A technical working group is planned for 16th June to review the changes.

Note: anyone who has an interest in the above and wishes to join the technical working group please contact Malcom Greetham.

5.2 Safe Electrical Isolation – Feedback from Certification Bodies (CBs)

RH reviewed the 'self-declaration' data from Q4 2020 to Q1 2021. The data received to date identified that 6383 engineers completed the declaration and that 275 (4.3%) stated they required training. These figures do not include data provided by 2CBs in percentages rather than engineer numbers. It was mentioned that all CBs are supporting this process, but it is outside of the scope of BS EN 17024 and therefore cannot be enforced by the CBs. **RH** mentioned that 7 CBs had provided some data and 1 CB had not provided any data and had been contacted by the SMB chair to ask why.

There was a general discussion about whether safe electrical isolation should be included within the remit of the SCF as it is not a matter of gas safety. **GD** suggested that an alternative approach could be to include safe electrical isolation within the minimum technical competence requirements and be covered during audits carried out as part of a competent person's scheme. **TG** pointed out that this approach would not capture engineers that only carry out maintenance activities.

Action TS/RH: Present the self-declaration data with the SMB and ask how they wish to proceed

5.3 Job Practice Analysis (JPA) Re-assessment

RH mentioned that the CBs had reviewed the changes to the re-assessment criteria and confirmed that the scheme will remain accreditable. The implementation date for the revisions will be 1st March 2022 and the revised criteria will be circulated to CBs and UKAS by 1st September 2021. **NO** said it is important that the CBs receive the criteria 6 months prior to the implementation date to allow them to make the required changes.

6. Low Carbon Heating

6.1 Hydrogen

It was mentioned that there is a lot of misinformation being circulated in the press relating to hydrogen. **RH** mentioned that work was underway to close the gaps in knowledge that were highlighted in the **interim** hydrogen technical standard and interim training specification. **PH** commented that it was crucial that engineers received training in hydronics and heat loss calculations to enable systems to be installed correctly. The group agreed with this comment.

6.2 Heat Pumps

GD mentioned that there are some infrastructure issues that will affect the grid if all properties were to have heat pumps installed. Especially with the move to electric vehicles and the associated requirement for EV charging points. A regional approach will be required for electrification of heat that may vary dependent on how densely populated the area is. **GD** informed the group that a low carbon apprenticeship has been approved by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IFATE). **NO** mentioned that system design training is a pre-requisite (in the form of a Low Heating Design Qualification) for the low-carbon qualification. **TG** said it is important that the gas and plumbing industries work together in the transition to low carbon systems.

7. IGEM/IG/1 Update

7.1 IGEM Governance

PHu and RH mentioned the SMB sub-committee that had been formed to review complaints relating to gas training. The SCF were walked through the proposed complaints procedure for alleged noncompliance by approved training providers. The revised governance document was circulated prior to the meeting to allow time for any comments to be collated. There were no objections to the proposals from the SCF but **NO** requested more time for the ABC to review the document as they are the ones that will be impacted by the changes. It was agreed that the document will be submitted to the SMB for approval, but it will be advised that the ABC require more time to review.

Action NO: Seek the views of the ABC and to feedback to the chair of the SCF by 2nd July?

Action TS/RH: Submit the governance document to the SMB

7.2 Training Specification

RH stated that the revision of the domestic natural gas training specification was complete and that it was being proofread prior to circulation for comment. The review of the ESP/metering training specification has now commenced, and **JJ** has agreed to join the working group to represent ESPs. The next meeting is scheduled for 22nd June.

8. National Occupational Standards (NOS) Items

RH mentioned that EU Skills are conducting a review of the domestic gas engineer NOS on behalf of Skills Development Scotland and advised that there may be some requests for information from SCF members with a short timescale for replies.

9. Review of Guidance Note 8

RH mentioned that there had been 2 meetings held to review guidance note 8 and that the next meeting was scheduled for 17th June. It was mentioned that all training needs to comply with the requirements of the GSIUR Regulation 3 Qualification and supervision. **TS** advised the meeting that not all 'Training Centres' are 'Recognised' as in IGEM/IG/1 and it is assumed these unrecognised training centres only deliver ACS refresher training and not recognised training.

10. Any Other Items

TS Informed the SCF that during the SMB meeting the ABC, UKAS, IGEM (as Authoriser) and Gas Safe Register were asked if they could supply data to enable the SMB to determine if the training and ACS assessment were effective. **NO** asked if the intention was to share the data at the SMB and they cascade to the SCF and GILG? **TS** replied it is envisaged that the data would be shared at the SMB and a simple overview provided to the SCF.

2021 Meeting Dates

~~3rd March~~

~~2nd June~~

1st September

24th November

Actions

Agenda	Actions meeting 48 (02.03.21)	By	Status
3	Liaise with the ABC representatives to provide suitable wording for standing members 'j' (Awarding Bodies delivering Matters of Gas Safety (MoGs) qualifications)	RH	open
3.1	Contact the members that have not responded to confirm their details are correct	RH/TS	open
5.2	Present the self-declaration data with the SMB and ask how they wish to proceed	RH/TS	open
7.1	Seek the views of the ABC on the governance document and to feedback to the chair of the SCF by 2nd July?	NO	open
7.1	Submit the governance document to the SMB	RH/TS	open