

Standards Consultation Forum
Notes and Actions
Wednesday 9th December 2020 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
Martyn Raine (MR)	SNIPeF
David Whitehead (DW)	NCC
Joanne Bone (JB)	IGEM
Neil Macdonald (NM)	HHIC
Ella Cooper (EC)	ICOM
Brett Johnson (BJ)	British Gas
Neill Ovenden (NO)	Certification Bodies
Martin Garbutt (MG)	Homeserve / GCS
Richard Hakeem (RH _a)	Liquid Gas UK
Graeme Dryden (GD)	APHC
Malcolm Greetham (MGr)	Energy & Utility Skills
David Smith (DJ)	Gas Safe Register
Peter Hurst (PH _u)	IGEM
Jessica Jarvis (JJ)	GDN's
Phil Burnett (PB)	Guest (Hydrogen)

Apologies

Gavin Jones	BSI
Paul Hull (PH)	Commercia Group
Steve Williams	IWABSS

TS reminded members on the importance of ensuring that information is shared with the organisations that they represent and the requirement for them to consult with their organisations.

TS advised the meeting was mindful of competition law.

TS welcomed new members and thanked Dave Bendle (retired from British Gas) for all his experienced input to the SCF over the years.

2. Minutes and actions from previous SCF meeting (16.09.20)

The minutes were approved by the attendees.

TS informed the SCF that Reuben Smith had stepped down from the role as chair of the GILG and that the process was underway to recruit a new chair and deputy chair. **TS** proposed that both are invited to the next two SCF meetings for experience. No objections were raised to this proposal

NO mentioned that there had been no objection from ACS centres to amending the ACS directory to only include the areas of ACS covered rather than each individual competency. **TS** mentioned that this should be monitored to see if the change results in additional enquiries being raised with Energy & Utility Skills

RHa mentioned that Liquid Gas UK will not be progressing the request for a limited scope inspector class until he has clarity of the requirements

3. Standards Update**3.1. IGEM**

Peter Hurst provided an update on IGEM standards under review – IGEM/G/11 (Unsafe Situations) has been approved and is awaiting publication

3.2. BSI

BS 8446 Installation and maintenance of open-flued, non-domestic gas-fired laundry appliances was published on 30th November

3.3. Liquid Gas UK

RHa provided an update – CoP 32 is being proofread and is due for publication later this Month, CoP 1 part 4 (guidance on regulators) has been published.

4. Changes to MoGS

4.1. Summary of changes

MGr updated the group on the changes made to matters of gas safety following Industry Standard Updates period: A Technical Working Group (TWG) is planned for 15th December to review the impact of the forthcoming withdrawal of BS 5482 -1 & parts 2. This will be withdrawn by British Standards when the new Liquid Gas CoP32 is published. The tightness testing procedure used by some LPG operatives may be affected by this change

Action SCF: Notify Malcolm Greetham if you wish to join the TWG on 15th December

4.2. Safe Electrical Isolation – Feedback from Certification Bodies (CBs)

RH reviewed the 'self-declaration' data provided by 6 Certification bodies. The data is encouraging with most engineers declaring their competence and a small number declaring that they required training. **TS** suggested the data should come from all CB's and that it should be in the same format e.g., actual numbers not percentages.

5 SCF working group – ACS Re-assessment

5.1 JPA Re-assessment proposal

RH informed the SCF that discussions are ongoing with UKAS to clarify their involvement with changes to Matters of Gas Safety criteria. The 2021 Matters of Gas Safety criteria based on changes to industry standards have been issued to Certification Bodies for implementation on 1st March 2021.

RH reminded the group that the process allowing engineers with expired ACS qualifications to remain on the Gas Safe Register for a six-month period is ending on 31st March 2021. **NO** mentioned that it was the allowance to be on the Gas Safe register that was extended for six months and that the expiry date of the ACS certificates had not been extended. This is important due to the fact that if a certificate has expired by more than 12 Months the candidate is not eligible for re-assessment and will need to undertake initial ACS.

6. Hydrogen

6.1 Training Development

PB provided an update on the hydrogen competency framework. The comments received on the draft ACoP have been reviewed and the amended ACoP has been submitted to BEIS for review. Energy & Utility Skills are working with IGEM to produce an interim technical standard to support the training and assessment of the engineers (approximately 40) involved in the trial.

7. IGEM/IG/1 Update

7.1 IGEM Governance

RH confirmed that no further comments were received from the SCF and that IGEM/IG/1 has been submitted to the SMB for sign off on 16th December. **PH** mentioned that IGEM/IG/1 is due for sign off by IGEM TCC on 18th December

7.2 Training Specification

RH updated the group on progress with the domestic natural gas training specification. The SCF were advised that it was proposed to make system design a mandatory element for new entrants undertaking central heating boiler training. This proposal was supported by the SCF.

8. Heat Pumps

8.1 Industry Update

GD mentioned that the main focus from BEIS appears to be heat pumps and that we should be discussing other technologies and not just concentrate on heat pumps. **MR** mentioned that the Scottish Government has a target of 64,000 heat pump installations per year. It was agreed the gas industry bodies should be working together to lobby and influence for hydrogen and ensure the correct message was being given to government and consumers.

Action; TS & RH to rename this agenda item for future meetings

9 Other Items

NO mentioned 3 items that the ABC will take to the SMB on 16th December;

- i, A number of guidance notes that support the ACS operations Document have been amended
- li, ACS candidates are unable to obtain duplicate ACS certificates from CITB. This is causing an issue if the candidate has lost their original certificate as the certificate is a pre-requisite for ACS renewal
- iii, A 'Recogniser of Training' group has been set up to discuss training and will submit their draft terms of reference to the SMB

TS Advised that Crosslee who made domestic gas tumble dryers is no longer in existence however there are contacts to obtain spare parts wick could be important to training and assessment centres; Paul Smoker of Currys PC World has provided details which will be passed onto the group.

Action; TS & RH – Pass on spare part contacts for Crosslee appliances

2021 Meeting Dates

- 3rd March
- 2nd June
- 1st September
- 24th November

Actions

Agenda	Actions meeting 45 (16.09.20)	By	Status
4.1	Contact Malcolm Greetham if you wish to attend the TWG on 15 th December	SCF	closed
8	Rename the heat pump agenda item to include other technologies	TS/RH	closed
9	Pass on spare part contacts for Crosslee appliances	TS/RH	closed