

News Release

Tuesday 15 January 2008. For immediate release.

Energy Institute agrees protocol to issue EPCs in Scotland

The Energy Institute (EI) has signed a protocol with the Scottish Buildings Standards Agency (SBSA) to recognise suitably qualified members from the EI's Register of Energy Consultants to be accredited to issue Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) in Scotland.

Under Article 7 of the Energy Performance in Buildings Directive (EPBD), EPCs are required for all new buildings built from January 2006 and existing buildings (over 1000m²). These certificates will grade performance on a scale from A-G similar to the system used for grading white goods and the intention is to roll out the first wave of certificates from April 2008.

Paul Stollard, Chief Executive, Scottish Building Standards Agency, says, 'The objective of the EPBD is to promote improvement of the energy performance of buildings. The SBSA is keen to place a high emphasis on minimising energy consumption, and so we are pleased to agree this latest protocol with the Energy Institute to expedite the further implementation of this directive.'

Sarah Beacock, Professional Affairs Director, Energy Institute, says, 'It has long been identified that buildings contribute around 40% of Europe's energy consumption. This directive is key in working towards a reduction in energy and identifying conservation measures. As the professional body for the energy industry, we are delighted that many of our members are being offered a route to qualify and be accredited to issue these certificates and contribute towards maximising the energy efficiency performance of buildings in Scotland.'

As part of the EI's agreement with the SBSA, the EI must meet basic criteria which ensures that:

- members have met the required professional criteria for membership of the EI;
- members have a knowledge of Scottish building standards regulations and procedures;
- members adhere to the EI rules of conduct;
- published disciplinary procedures are followed when necessary,
- accredited members' contact details are published in a register.

These members will also need to obtain training on:

- the use of Reduced Standard Assessment Procedure (rdSAP), Simplified Building Energy Model (SBEM) calculation tool or an approved alternative – with respect to the Scottish building standard regulations; and
- the identification of cost effective energy improvements.

A similar application has also been made to become an accredited scheme with the Department of Communities and Local Government for England, Wales and NI.

– Ends –

For all press and media enquiries, please contact:

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Notes to editor: With a combined membership of over 13,500 individuals and 300 companies across 100 countries, the Energy Institute (EI) is the leading chartered professional membership body for those working in energy. Providing an independent focal point and a powerful voice to engage business and industry, government, academia and the public, the EI promotes the safe, environmentally responsible and efficient supply and use of energy in all its forms and applications. In fulfilling this purpose the EI addresses the depth and breadth of energy and the energy system, from upstream and downstream hydrocarbons and other primary fuels and renewables, to power generation, transmission and distribution to sustainable development, demand side management and energy efficiency. Offering learning and networking opportunities to support career development, the EI provides a home to all those working in energy, and a scientific and technical reservoir of knowledge for industry. For further information, please visit www.energyinst.org