

**Gas Industry Liaison Group
Notes and Actions
Thursday 21st March 2013 at 10.00am
Friars Gate, 1011 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4BN**

1. Attendance/Apologies.

Present:

Trevor Smallpeice (TS)	Carillion (Chair)
Ian Moss (IM)	EU Skills (Secretariat)
Steve Chandler (SC)	Carillion
Barry Matthews (BM)	OPGO
Paul Smoker (PS)	DSG
Michael Ovenden (MO)	Domestic Gas Training
Neill Ovenden (NO)	Domestic Gas Training
David Dumaresq-Lucas (DD)	Brookhouse Training
Steve Mullin (SM)	The AA
Wim Rutjes (WR)	OPGO
Karl Simmons (KS)	IGEM
Mick Hallam (MH)	Romec
Ian Clarke (IC)	British Gas
Paul Hudson (PH)	Balfour Beatty
Richard Phipps (RP)	BPEC
Bob Porrit (BP)	Enterprise

2. Notes and Action from previous meeting (11/12/12)

Agreed the Notes from the previous meeting as a true and accurate record

The following actions are carried over from the previous meeting and do not form part of this agenda.

Note 1 (item 8.1)

Discussed the issue raised regarding the reporting of faulty catering appliances with Local authorities

Action IM: Discuss issue with Gas Safe Register and request appropriate contacts for Local Authorities.

Note 2 (Item 8.2)

Definition of work has been covered in the HSL56 consultation, from further discussions it was agreed that members of this group would be notified of the consultation with a view to sending in comments as appropriate.

Action IM:

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energy&utilityskills

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ulate link for the HSL56 consultation once available.

Note 3 (Item 8.5)

LPG, CCLP1, PD, RPH and LAV – a query was raised at the meeting concerning how the three categories are defined from a matters of gas safety point of view. Should we follow manufacturing standards or an 'Industry' definition?

Action IM: Add to the next agenda.

3. Standards Consultation Forum – update

3.1. CD/054.IGEM/UP/G/5 Edition 2 (ISU 33): Gas in Multi-Occupancy Buildings.

IM outlined the changes in IGEM/G/5 in that they will have little effect on existing ACS criteria, for information the areas of the standard that are related to ACS criteria are detailed in the change document. It has been agreed that any changes to the criteria would be deemed as maintenance only.

3.2. HWB1/CENWAT

IM informed the members of a request from Malvern Boilers to allow installers who hold CENWAT to install/maintain their boilers without having to hold HWB1. It has been suggested that if the boiler is manufactured and installed to the appropriate to normative standards for CENWAT then Malvern Boilers can be included under the scope of CENWAT.

Action IM: To establish whether Malvern Boilers are within the scope of the following standards: BS 6798 & BS5400

3.3. HTR1/HRTL2/HTRL3

The group discussed the on-going issues regarding HTR1/HRTL2/HTRL3, in particular whether the competences included in LP2 and LP3 can be included in HTR1 and whether LP2 and LP3 can be amalgamated. To move this forward it was agreed that UKLPG (Richard Hakeem) would speak with representatives from the industry to establish the best way forward.

Action IM: To discuss with Technical Working group (UKLPG) and report back to the GILG.

3.4. Risk assessment: Domestic appliance installed in a non-domestic environment

There is an on-going issue with regard to Domestic Engineers working on Domestic appliances in a non-domestic setting. Although there has been numerous discussions and articles to assist engineers there still seems to be a certain amount of confusion. To help with this issue ML has produced a Risk Assessment Flow Chart. Further to discussions surrounding the flowchart it was agreed that various amendments would be made and then circulated for further comment.

Action IM: circulate Risk Assessment Chart for Information and comment

4. Job Practise Analysis (ACS scheme)

IM informed the group of the latest position with the Job Practice Analysis (JPA), as discussed at previous meetings the JPA is a requirement of EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003. EU Skills have held a number of workshops with representatives from CB's, Employers and EU Skills. The purpose of the workshops has been to assess existing ACS criteria and establish whether it is still 'Fit for Purpose'. This moving forward will be achieved through the production of a matrix; this matrix identifies the different ACS assessments and the interaction between those assessments, plus the criteria within the assessments. This over the long term should reduce the amount of duplication between the assessments. Additional workshops are to be held over the coming months with specific groups from different sections of industry, this will ensure the appropriate expertise is used to evaluate the ACS criteria and to determine whether assessments/criteria need to be added or removed from the existing range of assessments.

A log of the work carried out to date was circulated to the group for information and comment.

Action ML/IM: Arrange additional JPA workshops as required and circulate amended criteria

Action All: feedback to IM/ML on the suggested changes detailed in the log.

5. Competence Review

The Competence review – workshops, have now taken place for the following areas of the report:

- Achieving Competence
- Maintaining Competence

The feedback gained from these workshops has been circulated to the group for information and comment.

The next steps of the process is to write up the outcomes from the workshops, a report detailing recommendations will be produced and delivered to the SCF and SMB for information and agreement. The report will include Cost benefit analysis and timescales for implementation of the recommended actions.

Further discussions will be required regarding the section of the report 'Applying Competence', it has been agreed that a further workshop will not be necessary for this section of the report and that discussions will take place using the processes laid down in the SMB and SCF structures.

Action All: feedback regarding the recorded feedback to IM.

6. HSE Review of L56 and COP 20

TS outlined the latest position with the L56/CoP 20 in that:

HSE have run a number of steering group meetings to provide industry input to the proposed changes to the HSL56 documentation:

Following completion of the workshops, HSE will amend the L56 document with revised ACoP's and Guidance sections; at this stage the Regulations will not be changed. The following timetable for delivery will take place:

- Feb – May 2013 – preparation for final consultation
- May – Jul 2013 – formal consultation on revised ACoP
- Sept – Oct 2013 - analysis of consultation responses, final revision made, HSE board approval and Ministerial agreement.
- Nov 2013 – publication of revised ACoP's

In addition to the above a new Industry Guidance document will be produced by IGEM and EU Skills, a draft version will be sent out for comment to the SCF and GILG members once available, the timescales will mirror the above.

BM raised the point that it is difficult for new entrants to gain work experience. The issue is, can there be an opportunity for training centres or employers to be able to gain funding in order them to be able to provide the mechanisms for portfolio building.

7. Legislation, Normative and Informative Document List.

Gas Safe Register has recently issued the above document as a replacement to TB999, the members of the GILG are invited to check the list with a view to whether the normative standards are relevant for Gas Engineers. There was a discussion to whether all the standards on the list would be inspected by Gas Safe Register, the general consensus is that they may be but over a period of time.

It was suggested it would be helpful if the list clearly indicated which documents Gas Safe Register® inspect against and which documents were used for ACS assessments.

There was also discussion on ownership of the document and who decides what is included and excluded; there was an expectation that industry would have equal input into the final list.

To help with the relevance of these standards with regard to ACS it was agreed that EU Skills would circulate a list of standards that are included in the criteria.

Action ML: to circulate a list of the normative standards that is included in ACS criteria.

8. Terms of Reference (SMB, SCF and SDU)

IM informed the members of the progress made so far, in that various comments/amendments have been added to the documents. It has been agreed at other forum's the latest versions of the documents would be circulated for further comment, suggested changes/comments received to date will be added to the existing documents.

Action IM: circulate latest versions to the members for information and comment

In addition to the above it was agreed that the Terms of reference for the GILG would be circulated for comment.

Action IM: circulate the Terms of Reference for the GILG to the members for information and comment.

9. Members items

9.1. BM raised a query to why HHIC and its industry partners (supported by EU Skills) introduced new standards for boiler commissioning, without any discussion held at the GILG; also would these changes affect the ACS assessments.

IM stated that EU Skills were asked to participate in the process in order to offer guidance on the competences engineers hold within the domestic sector e.g. CPA1. Therefore, there was no need to consult with Industry (GILG) as there would be no to change criteria as a consequence of the HHIC project. However, if it was found that changes to Manufacturers Instructions affected the competence criteria EU Skills would consult with Industry in the same way we would consult regarding changes to Technical Standards.

9.2. BM raised a query regarding HHIC's boiler commissioning requirement to increase CO levels in POC from 200 to 350 ppm. IM suggested to Barry that he contacts HHIC for further guidance. However, the understanding is that the level 350ppm is an upper limit agreed by manufactures and that engineers would be expected to follow the specific manufacturer's guidance relating to commissioning for CO levels and CO/CO₂ ratios.

9.3. BM queried whether the GILG and industry support The Sunday Times Safer Homes campaign for faster product recalls and raising the penalty that can be imposed on companies for delaying warnings about potentially deadly product defects? BM gave an example of BEKO cookers that have an issue with potential faulty seals on the cooker and grill door. The question is 'How can awareness be raised with registered engineers'. A method to communicate with engineers is through the registered Gas Engineer magazine.

Action IM: write to SMB raising the issue.

9.4. WR raised a query regarding having an alternative way of reporting safety concerns with gas products other than Riddor/ trading standards. This item has been covered in Note 1 (item 8.1).

9.5. PS raised concern over the standard of reports left by First Call Operatives attending gas emergencies and in particular whether there is a standard format the ESP's should provide the customer.

Action IM: write to HSE to seek guidance.

9.6. PS raised the issue regarding low quality Cooker bayonets and Hoses, these fittings often result in an increase number of gas leaks.

Action PS: to contact Gas Safe Register for further guidance.

AOB

PS raised concerns regarding the poor consistency of Leak detection Fluid that may lead to gas leaks not being detected. The GILG thanked PS for highlighting this potential issue.

MH raised concerns regarding faulty installations on overhead radiant tube heaters that are largely due to poor quality flexes used in installation.

Action MH: to contact Gas Safe Register.

MH raised the query regarding which ACS assessments an engineer would require for CHP installations, guidance can be found on the EU Skills website.

KS raised the issue surrounding work being carried out downstream of the meter but being categorised as working under the factories act rather than the GSIUR. This also allows the individuals to avoid being Gas Safe Registered.

Action IM: to contact HSE and GSR.

Date of Future meetings

- Wednesday 22nd May 2013

At: EU Skills, EU Skills Friars Gate, 1011 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4BN unless otherwise stated.