

**Gas Industry Liaison Group
Notes and Actions
Wednesday 12th September 2018 at 10.00am
Corus Regency Hotel, Stratford Road, Shirley, B90 4EB**

1. Attendance/Apologies.

Reuben Smith	SWAT Gas (Chair)
Ian Moss (IM)	Energy & Utility Skills (Secretariat)
Malcolm Greetham (MG)	Energy & Utility Skills
Bruce Bennett (BB)	Gas Safe Register
Paul Smoker (PS)	Knowhow
Tony Hopton (TH)	Home Serve
Adam Hartley (AH)	Home Serve
Bill Dyer (BD)	T Brown Group
Andy Cartidge (AC)	National Grid Metering
Steve Mullin (SM)	The AA
Stephen Simcott (SS)	Scottish Power
Mick Hallam (MH)	Royal Mail Property & Facilities Solutions
Martin Lyth (ML)	NICEIC
Ian Palmer (IP)	Cert-ain
Peter Platten (PP)	GTS
Steve Allitt (SA)	Heat Pro Ltd
Dave Marvin	Nottinghamshire Health Care.

Apologies

Michael Ovenden	Domestic Gas Services
Neill Ovenden	Domestic Gas Services
John Forest	GATC
Laurah Hutchinson-Strain	HHIC
Joe Beesley	Corgi Services
Steve Hughes	Cadent
James McConnell	BTC

2. Minutes from previous GILG meeting (06.06.18)

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and agreed.

3. Standards Consultation Forum - update. (Malcolm Greetham)

The following revised standards are being considered in relation to their impact on the MoGS criteria, the review period will run to the 30th September 2018 and will be subject to discussions at a Technical Working Group:

3.1. ISU 076: UKLPG Codes of Practice 24 Part 3 – 2017 use of LPG for Commercial Events, Street Food and Mobile Catering.

Affected ACS assessments CoNGLP1 CMC non-domestic changeover to LPG mobile catering.

3.2. ISU 077: UKLPG Codes of Practice 1 Part 1 – 2017 Bulk Storage at Fixed Installations Design, Installation and operation of vessels located above ground.

Affected ACS assessments include VESLP1 and VESLP2.

3.3. ISU 078: Amendments to the Domestic Building Services Compliance Guide – 2018 – England.

Following a review of the information there are no expected changes to the ACS assessments.

3.4. ISU 079: Amendments to the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 2018.

Affected ACS assessments regarding regulation 26 (9) include CCN1, CCLP1 and CCCN1.

3.5. ISU 080: The Gas Industry Unsafe Situations Procedure – IGEM/G/11

Affected ACS assessments include 'Cores' and Changeovers regarding REG 26 & 36.

3.6. ISU 081: BS 8499: 2017 Specification for domestic gas meter boxes and meter bracket.

Following a review of the information there are no expected changes to the ACS assessments.

3.7. ISU 082: IGEM/GM/7A: Electrical connections for gas metering equipment.

Following a review of the information there are no expected changes to the ACS assessments.

3.8. ISU 083: IGEM/GM/7B: Hazardous area classification for gas metering equipment.

Following a review of the information there are no expected changes to the ACS assessments.

3.9. IGEM/UP/17: The SCF to review to ensure that training and assessment criteria adequately cover the clauses surrounding new appliances installed on existing shared flues. The standard is currently being reviewed and will be hopefully be published later in the year.

3.10. Safe Electrical Isolation.

IM reminded the members of a proposal to include Safe Electrical Isolation in the MoGS criteria. This subject has now been discussed many times without a firm outcome being achieved. However, through further discussions the Technical Bulletin on safe electrical isolation has been updated and re-published by Gas Safe Register. However, the SMB agreed for the subject to be included in the discussions at the next Technical Working Group to see how criteria could be included in the MoGS. It was stressed, however, that the criteria need to be 'Safe Electrical Isolation' and NOT detailed electrical testing. It was also noted that safe electrical isolation would also be included in appropriate training specifications, irrespective of inclusion in MoGS.

Action MG: circulate safe electrical 'Best Practice Guide '.

3.11. CMA3.

Several Certification Bodies have extended their scope to offer CMA3.

4. Member Items

4.1. Commercial Catering Canopies (GTS)

A paper regarding GTS Training concerns regarding the current testing procedures for Commercial Catering Canopies was circulated to the GILG members prior to the meeting and was presented to the group by Steve Allitt.

GTS feel the issues surrounding the testing of Commercial Catering Canopies are as result of the way the industry categories canopies. In their opinion 'canopies' should be classed as a 'Flue' as they extract products of combustion to an outside space. It was stated by the group that chimney/flue are required under the scope of the Gas safety (Industry & Use) Regulations for Class B appliances and therefore kitchen appliances i.e. Class A appliances do not necessarily apply.

Currently flueless appliances are installed under a canopy which provides a mechanical extraction system, these installations are tested by recording the CO₂ with a flue gas analyser. GTS are stating that in their opinion a spillage test should be carried out in addition to the CO₂ test.

It was agreed that the following standards include the testing of canopies i.e. to varying degrees:

- BS 5440
- UP/19
- DW 172
- BS 6173
- BS 7967 Part 5

The following actions were agreed by the group:

Action MG: Circulate GTS paper to CESRB for discussion at the next CESRB meeting (October 2018)

Action MG: Request representation from GTS on the BS 6173 review panel (October 2018).

Action GTS: Write a Technical Bulletin that provides guidance when testing Commercial Catering Canopies.

4.2. Trailblazer Standards

Paul provided an update to their apprenticeship programme in that they have apprentices on programme and expect them to complete the End Point Assessment during October 2018. BPEC have been appointed as the End Point Assessment organisation.

Paul raised the potential issue of the scheme in that the Assessment Plan for the apprenticeship states that the apprentices need to complete their ACS assessments and subsequent Gas Safe Registration prior to the start of the End Point Assessment i.e. Stage 1. A consequence of this is that apprentices are in a position where they complete their ACS assessments and do not complete the rest of their apprenticeship i.e. End Point Assessment.

IM stated that the Gas engineering assessment plan is due for review next year and these types of issues could be reviewed.

Action IM: contact Jaqueline Hall to confirm when the Gas engineering review will take place.

4.3. HTR1, HTRLP2 & CoNGLP1(LAV) (Neill Ovenden)

Neill Ovenden submitted a proposal at a previous meeting to amalgamate the above ACS criteria, it will not however, remove the assessment categories as standalone ACS assessments. The proposal will continue to be discussed at the Technical Working Group to establish how the criteria will meet the requirements of HTRLP2 should the candidate only hold CCN1, HTR1 plus the LPG changeover.

5. Standard Setting Body re-tender (Ian Moss).

Energy & Utility Skills currently facilitate and manages the SSB and is funded from Gas Safe Register revenue, via a contract between Capita and Energy & Utility Skills. This contract is due to expire on 31st March 2019. Post April 2019 a Procurement exercise will be facilitated by Capita to appoint an organisation to facilitate and manage the Standard Setting Body. However, to ensure continuity of service, the provider post April 2019 and Energy and Utility Skills have been asked to extend the current contract by 12 months to March 2020.

To prepare for the SSB procurement exercise, the SMB are to establish the key tasks and responsibilities for the SSB moving forward. The GILG are to be invited to comment on the draft.

Action GILG: provide comments on the Standard Setting Body specification.

6. ACS Entry Routes and Changeover Requirements

IM presented the revised version of Guidance Note 8 to the group and explained the reasons for the significant changes to the document. In summary the changes are targeted at new entrants who join the gas industry via the shortest route and then expand their scope of work on the Gas Safe Register without always gaining the necessary work experience.

As with previous meetings the group have agreed in principle with the proposal but have consistently questioned the fact that the revised guidance note lacked the necessary detail for ACS/Training Centres to be able to successfully implement the guidance. There needs to be clarification if the revised guidance intends the 'learning bridges' to be delivered against the IGEM/IG/1 standard. The group also pointed out that centres offering training for registered engineers wishing to extend their scope would need to be instructed to the types of facilities they require and the necessary practical provisions. It cannot be assumed that all centres offering upskilling training are also approved for new entrants and therefore comply to IGEM/IG/1, therefore the transition to the new guidance may require significant adjustment and cost to enable centres to comply.

Action IM: Raise issues/concerns at the SCF and SMB meetings.

7. IGEM/IG/1

7.1. LPG Training Specification

IM notified the group that a draft LPG (see attached) has now been drafted and will be circulated for Industry Comment. The specification is not meant to be the finished article but will require support from the industry. A workshop for all interested parties is to be arranged in late November 2018, should members wish to attend then please contact IM direct.

Action IM: circulate LPG training specification to GILG members for comment.

Action GILG members: confirm to IM if they wish to attend a LPG workshop, likely to be arranged for the end of November 2018.

7.2. IGEM/IG/1 Governance

The governance for the implementation of IGEM/IG/1 continued to be carried out by IGEM. A series of audits will take place over the next twelve-month period. These audits will include both quality system audits held at the Recognisers of Training premises and a sample of audits at the Training Providers premise.

7.3. Gas Engineering Training Inquiry

This government inquiry is being facilitated by Policy Connect and further to over 50 interviews with representatives from the Gas Utilisation Industry and several meetings with an industry panel and MP's Barry Sheerman and Luke Pollard the recommendations are being compiled by Policy Connect. The target date for the launch of the recommendations is to be September 2018.

The outcomes of the inquiry will also take into consideration the work carried out via the implementation of IGEM/IG/1.

8. Job Practice Analysis (ACS scheme).

Having produced a proposal that includes all four core competences and the appropriate changeovers, and the subsequent discussions with the SCF, it is now the responsibility of the Standards Development Unit i.e. Malcolm Greetham to provide amended criteria for sign-off by the SCF and SMB. This will need to include the writing of the amended criteria and associated practical provisions. An important aspect of this is to provide UKAS with a rationale to why changes have been made and therefore engage with UKAS prior to implementation.

9. AOB

The following points were raised under Any Other Business:

PS: there has been several examples where the cooker hose has failed on LPG installations i.e. a gas escape has occurred. This is deemed as a manufacturing problem and should these instances be identified they should be RIDDOR reportable.

PS: the question to why additional clarification of CCLP1 i.e. LAV, PD and RPH are not included on the Gas Safe Register card.

PS: there are reported instances where an individual have their ACS assessments awards removed from the Gas Safe Registered.

The reason for the removal can be down to the ACS centre rather than the individual who holds them.

Action BB: to inquire regarding the processes involved that supports this action.

BB: Capita have been awarded the new contract to operate the Gas Safe Register for the next five years i.e. from 1st April 2019.

MG: notified the group that the results from inspections has been made available by Gas Safe Register and that there will be an exercise to analyse the trends and decide if changes are required to the MoGS.

GILG/12/09/18

RS: raised the current need for the need for candidates for ACS to have an original certificate at a cost of £30. Is there a possibility that the CB could provide an operative report rather than a duplicate certificate?

Date of next meetings: to be held at EU Skills, Friars Gate, 1011, Stratford Road, Shirley, B90 4BN.

Wednesday 5th December 2018