

## News History 2010

### May 2010

#### **New Scottish Government backed scheme launched by SNIEPF**

A new scheme which will allow professional plumbing and heating installers to self-certify drainage, heating and plumbing work, including micro-renewable installations such as solar panels, which is subject to a Building Warrant, was launched by the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change, Stewart Stevenson MSP, at the Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers' Federation (SNIEPF) conference which was held on Friday 21 May in East Kilbride.

Certification with the building regulations by Approved Certifiers of Design and Approved Certifiers of Construction was introduced as part of the Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (including subsequent amendments). The Scottish Ministers approved a Scheme for Certification of Construction (Drainage, Heating & Plumbing Installations) at the end of last year and at the same time, the Scottish Government's Building Standards Division (BSD) appointed SNIEPF to run the Scheme. As well as being able to certify this type of work, members of the scheme will also be able to display a Scottish Government logo which will identify them as a member of the scheme.

Commenting on the launch, SNIEPF's Director & Secretary Robert Burgon said "The Approved Certifier of Construction Scheme is a significant step for the Plumbing Industry in Scotland. For the first time, properly qualified plumbers will be able to self-certify their work under a building warrant without waiting for a Local Authority inspector to inspect their work and sign off a completion certificate".

Robert continued "The range of work covered under the scheme which includes drainage, plumbing, heating, micro-renewables as well as a selection of electrical work is also significant as the scheme covers not only the traditional work areas of the industry such as drainage but it also encompasses the new skills the industry is learning on micro-renewables".

SNIEPF President Tom Galloway said "SNIEPF has been working for a number of years with officials from the Scottish Building Standards Division to set up the scheme and the complex and wide ranging scope of the scheme has meant a great deal of work on both sides to ensure that we have ended up with a scheme which will benefit not only installers but also clients".

The scheme will go live to the public in the middle of June and customers will be able to access the Building Standards website ([www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/Building/Building-standards](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/Building/Building-standards)) and search for a list of Approved Certifiers.

## **May 2010**

### **SNIEPF Annual Report Issued**

The 2009/10 Annual Report was approved at the recent SNIEPF Annual Conference. The report contains information on two new schemes launched by SNIEPF as well as details of the new SNIEPF offices which will become our new home from July this year.

### **New SNIEPF President Elected**

Mr. Tom Galloway, a Partner in the firm of T. & R. Galloway, based in Douglas, South Lanarkshire, became President of the Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers' Federation (SNIEPF) at its Annual Conference which was held in the MacDonald Crutherland House Hotel, East Kilbride on Friday, 21st May, 2010.

Mr. Galloway is the 8th President of SNIEPF to come from Lanarkshire. Mr. Galloway is married to Rosemary, who is also his business partner and has two sons, Bryan his elder son works within the Construction Industry and is married to Kari, whilst Craig his younger son, is the firm's Contracts Manager and lives with his partner, Josephine. He has two granddaughters, Alix and Ailee and one grandson, Abe.

## **April 2010**

### **World Plumbing Conference Heads for Edinburgh in 2011**

Registrations and hotel bookings are now being accepted for the 9th World Plumbing Conference which will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland from 7-11 September 2011. For details please go to [www.wpc2011.co.uk](http://www.wpc2011.co.uk)

### **Father and Son Appointed Presidents**

In what is believed to be a first, a father and son have been elected to serve concurrently as Presidents of two local SNIEPF organizations. Irvine based Bill Carson was elected President of the SNIEPF Glasgow and West of Scotland Association on 13 April whilst his son, Ian, was elected as President of the Kilmarnock Branch of the Association at their AGM on 19 April.

### **Scottish Plumber's Invention Helps Saves Lives In Africa**

David Osborne owner of Celsius Plumbing in Ayrshire has invented a device known as a "Jompy" which will help households in africa to use their fuel more efficiently, ultimately reducing household wood smoke and positively impacting on the environment.

### **Scottish Government Announces Launch Of Boiler Scrapage Scheme**

Up to 5,000 households in Scotland will be able to claim £400 towards the cost of a new boiler, under a new boiler scrapage scheme announced by the Scottish Government. Households who

have a central heating boiler which is listed as a category G rated boiler in the SEDBUK listing ([www.sedbuk.com](http://www.sedbuk.com)) and which convert less than 70 per cent of fuel into heat, will qualify for cashback on a new energy saving model.

From Monday 24 May 2010 households will be able to apply online or over the phone through the Scottish Government's Energy Saving Scotland advice network. However they must use an installer who must be registered with Gas Safe (for gas installations) and a recognised industry body such as CLE or SNIEPF. Members of certain other industry schemes may also be used and details of these will be included in the scheme guidance.

Announcing details of the scheme, Housing and Communities Minister Alex Neil said: "Through the boiler scrappage scheme we will help people replace inefficient old boilers for new energy saving models and importantly, put money back in the pockets of householders. "At the same time we are providing an economic stimulus for the heating industry, supporting jobs and helping it get through this financially difficult time."

SNIEPF Director Robert Burgon said: "The Scottish boiler scrappage scheme will be a great opportunity for many households to upgrade their inefficient heating systems which will be costing them many hundreds of pounds each year in wasted fuel costs. "Installing a new system will not only help the environment it will also help save money on their heating bills.

"Like many other industries the plumbing and heating sector has been badly hit by the recession and the scheme will prove a boost to many of our member businesses."

The Boiler Scrappage Scheme will be run through the Energy Saving Scotland advice network – the Scottish Government's 'one stop shop' for energy efficiency, renewables and sustainable transport advice. The advice network will issue vouchers as of 24 May 2010, available either by calling 0800 512 012 or through the Energy Saving Trust website.

The scheme will operate on a first come, first served basis and will last until all the funds have been allocated. Households will be able to apply over the phone or online and, if eligible, will receive a £400 voucher towards the installation of a new boiler. The vouchers can then be redeemed for cash from the Energy Saving Trust once the boiler has been installed.

New boilers should be energy efficient models, certified under the Energy Saving Recommended scheme.

### **Approved Certifier of Construction Scheme Drainage, Heating and Plumbing).**

The Building (Scotland) Act 2003 introduced a new Building Standards system for Scotland that raises standards and simplifies the approval of many construction activities for the public, Verifiers (local authorities) and the industry.

The new Building Standards legislation also provided for the appointment of Approved certifiers of Design and Approved Certifiers of Construction. Properly qualified professionals can become Certifiers and have the authority to certify work for building warrant purposes.

SNIEPF has been approved by the Scottish Ministers to run the above scheme which will allow individuals (Approved Certifiers of Construction) to "self-certify" drainage, heating and plumbing work which is subject to a building warrant. [Click here](#) to see what the scheme covers and the qualifications you need to be a scheme member.

The Approved Certifier must be employed by a business (Approved Body) which is either a member of the Plumbing Industry Licensing scheme which is operated by SNIEPF or they must meet the Licensing scheme criteria.

## **March 2010**

### **Aberdeen Association mourns death of Past President.**

Andy Wood a Past President of the SNIEPF Aberdeen Association passed away on Thursday 1 April 2010 after a short illness. Andy's funeral took place at Aberdeen Crematorium, Hazlehead (West Chapel), on Thursday, April 8, at 2.55 p.m. More than 400 mourners attended the funeral, where SNIEPF Past President Allan McIntosh read the eulogy.

### **SNIEPF Mourns Colleague**

SNIEPF were sad to hear that Edith Tripney who many members will have known through operation of the PLUTOS holiday scheme passed away on the 27 of March. Edith, who retired last year had been ill for some time. Her funeral took place on Thursday 1 April at St Andrews Parish Church Deans, Livingston.

### **SNIEPF Gives Cautious Welcome to The Scottish Boiler Scrappage Scheme**

SNIEPF has given a cautious welcome to the announcement by the Scottish Finance Minister, John Swinney, that a Boiler Scrappage Scheme will be introduced in Scotland.

SNIEPF Director, Robert Burgon, said "The decision to introduce a Boiler Scrappage Scheme in Scotland will be welcomed by both householders and the plumbing and heating industry alike. However, the £2M which has been allocated for the Scheme represents less than 5% of the total amount which has been set aside for the Scheme which currently applies in England".

"If the same grant of £400 is given in Scotland then only 5000 householders will benefit compared with 125,000 in England".

Robert continued "We are still unaware of the details of how a Scheme will work but we hope that the Government will not only consider the issue of the type of boilers which are to be replaced but also the requirements of the installers who will carry out this work. We have already offered our

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support to officials as they develop the terms of the Scheme and look forward to that process. There is clearly demand for such a scheme in Scotland- our e-petition on the Scottish Parliament website has attracted almost 300 signatures in just a few days and we are sure that the supporters of such a scheme will be pleased to learn of the introduction of the scheme. ”