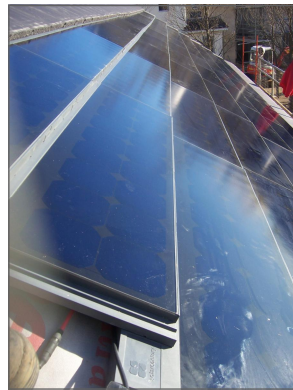


MICROGENERATION CERTIFICATION SCHEME



bre global

CASE STUDY: BOWLLER SOLAR ENERGY

Background:

The Bowler Group has been established for over 20 years offering a full range of roofing, scaffold, green roof and solar energy solutions for both new build and restoration projects. Bowler Solar Energy, as part of the Environmental Systems division, was added to the group in 2004 and provides solar systems, photovoltaics and hot water solutions to suit the unique needs of domestic and commercial customers. Bowler Group believe in excelling in customer satisfaction and provide comprehensive cover with a dedicated workforce.

Certification Process:

Bowler Group feel that one of the primary benefits of being accredited to the Microgeneration Certification Scheme is the ability to offer their customers the option to apply for a renewables grant. The Low Carbon Buildings Programme, run by BERR, allows householders and organisations to apply for grants towards the cost of installation of a certified product by a certified installer. Further grant information is available from the Low Carbon Buildings Programme at www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk.

Accreditation to the MCS also provides the opportunity for installers to enter bidding for local authority schemes, contribute towards the code for sustainable homes building regulations and the Merton Rule planning policy.

Bowler believe the thorough assessment process including both site and installation visits is necessary to accurately assess procedures and ensure compliance with current regulations including health and safety measures. Bowler have noted improvements in service quality and feel this provides assurance of high quality installation for both customers and employees.

Our Success:

Anthony Lambie received a Low Carbon Buildings Programme grant for his Bowler installation and is now using the renewable power generated from his Photovoltaic installation to run a ground source heat pump.

"We are delighted with the PV Solar tiles which Bowler supplied and installed on the roof of our new house. The wireless monitor shows that we are generating electricity even on dull days, which is very encouraging. We have installed a ground-source heat-pump for our central heating and hot water, and we expect that in a full year the PV electricity will cover most of the running costs of the heat-pump. We are particularly pleased with the C21E PV tiles, which blend in so well with the surrounding roof-tiles that most people do not realise they are there – a very important factor in a conservation area. Bowler have been very helpful and professional throughout the project.—Anthony Lambie.

BUILDINGS ACCOUNT FOR 47% OF CARBON EMISSIONS IN THE UK. MICROGENERATION HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE UK'S CHALLENGING EU 2020 RENEWABLES AND GREENHOUSE GAS TARGETS.

MICROGENERATION CERTIFICATION SCHEME

The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) is owned by the department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR formerly DTI) and is designed to evaluate products and installers against robust criteria for microgeneration technologies, providing greater protection for consumers and ensuring that the Government's (i.e. taxpayers) grant money is spent in an effective manner.

This new scheme will underpin BERR's grant schemes, such as 'the Low Carbon Buildings Programme' where grants are only available to applicants using both products and installers certified under approved schemes such as MCS. The scheme also creates a quality framework for other initiatives aimed at supporting microgeneration. Examples include stamp duty land tax relief for new zero carbon homes, the Carbon Emission Reduction Target scheme, and new simplified planning regulations.

The aim is to:

- Help build a rapidly growing Microgeneration industry based on quality and reliability
- Make a substantial contribution to cutting the UK's dependency on fossil fuels and its carbon dioxide emissions
- Provide consumer confidence that products and installers meet and continue to meet robust standards
- Grow the Microgeneration industry

For full details on product and installer listings, please visit www.greenbooklive.com



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- promulgating standards and knowledge throughout the industry through publications and events
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