



NEWS RELEASE

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TECHNOLOGY NOW IN PLACE FOR ENERGY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES Government approves UK's first energy efficiency software for use by home inspectors and domestic energy assessors

The very last pieces of the jigsaw are falling into place for the introduction of Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) in England and Wales on 1 June.

Following the confirmation this week that there will be plenty of qualified professionals in place to implement the new regulations, National Energy Services (NES) today received Government approval for its online EPC software.

This is currently the only approved software available for use by home Inspectors and energy assessors. It allows them to enter all the necessary data to calculate the home's energy rating and to generate appropriate recommendations for how the home can cut down its fuel bills and harmful CO₂ emissions.

Brian Scannell, Managing Director of NES said: "NES invented energy ratings for homes over 17 years ago and has been producing software for energy efficiency professionals ever since. We helped develop the RDSAP energy rating methodology and the technical basis for the Energy Performance Certificate, so it is fitting that our software should be the first to be used to produce EPCs on 1 June – the day Home Information Packs become mandatory".

The EPC online software is from the same family as SAVA's industry-leading Home Condition Report software, the first software used by home inspectors around the country. It has been rigorously tested to produce consistent and accurate results based on the RDSAP energy rating methodology.

ENDS

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Notes to Editors

1. From 1 June 2007 every home that is put on the market for sale in England and Wales will need an EPC as part of the Home Information Pack (HIP). This is designed to meet the demands of Article 7 of the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive which requires an EPC to be produced whenever a building is constructed, sold or rented out. Under the Directive, EPCs can only be produced by “suitably qualified and/or accredited experts.”
2. A recent survey of 10 leading training and assessment centres for Home Inspectors and Domestic Energy Assessors (DEAs) shows that there will be in excess of 3,500 trained and accredited operatives by 1 June. See AHIPP press release “The Truth about Energy Assessors and the Cost of HIPs”, 8 May 2007.
3. National Energy Services (NES) owns and operates both the NHER scheme and SAVA. Since the company was launched in 1994, the NES team has grown to over 80 people, including software developers, environmental scientists, building services engineers, building physicists, business management specialists, statisticians and residential surveyors. NES is a trading subsidiary of the National Energy Foundation, an independent charity set up in 1988 to promote energy conservation and provide help to improve energy efficiency in residential buildings.
4. The National Home Energy Rating (NHER) scheme provides technical and business support for individuals and organisations involved in domestic energy efficiency. The NHER runs a training and assessment programme for Domestic Energy Assessors (DEA), and an accreditation scheme for DEAs. www.nher.co.uk / www.dea-training.co.uk
5. SAVA is a leading provider of training and software to Home Inspectors. SAVA was also the first certification scheme for home inspectors. www.sava.org.uk