Technical Support Bulletin 2

Technical Bulletin – 30/11/2017

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RdSAP Conventions v10.0

DCLG, the Northern Irish Building Standards, and Scottish Building Standards have approved the release of latest version of the RdSAP Conventions (version 10.0) for use for all lodgements from **31**st **December 2017**.

As a change in requirements, all domestic energy assessors are required to undertake a mandatory learning module which will soon appear in iQ-Energy. This will outline the changes within the Conventions and how they should be interpreted.

This module, or any specifically focused on the changes for version 10.0, cannot be included as part of your annual CPD requirement as a change in requirements.

The Conventions Group has worked hard since the version 9.0 release to simplify the wording of Conventions, remove Conventions which should be a training-related issue, or to enhance the clarity of understand for DEAs. Full details will be available within iQ-Energy in time.

Domestic MEES

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) have released their guidance document for the Energy Efficiency of Private Rented Property Regulations (MEES).

We have reviewed this information and produced a new CPD module dealing directly with how DEAs can advise their clients on the incoming Regulations. This module is only $£13_{+VAT}$ and available from the Quidos Website: <u>CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS</u>

Utility meter box key

In recent months, we have noted from audit feedback that basic elements of an Energy Assessor's on-site kit are not being used effectively, or are missing completely.



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Element 4.1 of the National Occupational Standards for DEAs (which should be read in line with the Quidos Code of Conduct) states that Assessors must be able to:

...ensure that you have the equipment and resources needed for the inspection

One area of this would be to ensure that you have a meter box key in order to accurately ascertain the type of meter within the dwelling. Meter box keys are very easy to get hold of from hardware stores, or online; having a locked meter box should not be a factor in missing evidence required for auditing.



When no access is access

Loft access is always an area which can cause confusing for Energy Assessors, and the technical support and QA team frequently see examples where this gets muddled up.

Basically, if there is a loft hatch, you must <u>always</u> be inputting that there is access. The fact that access is temporarily restricted, either by paint, screws, or a lock, that is irrelevant. It is only the absence of a loft hatch, or means of entering the loft space, that you should be using 'no access'.

LOFT HATCH = ACCESS

This might seem like teaching your grandmother to suck eggs, but you would be surprised how this simple input confuses Energy Assessors. You should refer to Convention 3.04 for further details.

RdSAP 9.93 Data Collection Sheets

With the advent of RdSAP version 9.93, we have updated the Quidos Data Collection sheet templates for DEAs. They now include a revised page for floor plans, as well as updated Extensions sheet.

While we had the older versions removed, we noted a couple of assessors wanting to use the templates for their audit uploads. For audit, we require your ORIGINAL data collection sheets from whilst you were completing the assessment – these could be a single page of notes, using another Scheme's templates, or even notations around your floor plan. The point being that you're far more likely to make mistakes attempting to transfer your notes than simply providing your original notes in the first place. In addition, it makes it much more difficult to confirm that you had visited the property on the correct date of assessment if you provide computer edited notes for your assessment, knowing that it's unlikely you completed these whilst there.

Please remember to either print and use the Quidos data collection sheets, or provide you ORIGINAL data collection forms for audit.

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Excellence in Efficiency

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from everyone at

The Quidos Main Office will be closed for the Christmas break from 22nd December.

CLOSED: 22nd December 2017 – 2nd January 2018

The office will be open as usual from 9am on 3rd January 2018.

There will also be limited online technical support for Energy Assessors during the Christmas period.

All queries should be submitted to the Support Log: http://support.quidos.co.uk or email support@quidos.co.uk