



Technical Bulletin – 31/10/2017

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RdSAP version 9.93

Many Energy Assessors will be aware that the latest revision to the RdSAP Methodology is due to be released from 5th November. Whilst there are no major data input changes, there will be noticeable changes for EPCs on Age Band A-E properties with solid or cavity walls.

U-value changes

The U-value of building part refers to how heat passes through the construction; the higher the number, the more heat passes through, and hence, lost from the property.

With RdSAP 9.93, the U-values of specific wall constructions for Age Band A-E will be amended, increasing their insulating abilities. The wall types affected are:

- **Solid Brick (as built/int.ext 50mm ins./int.ext 100mm ins./int.ext 150mm ins.)**
- **Cavity (as built/filled/filled+50mm ins./filled+100mm ins./filled+150mm ins./filled+200mm ins.)**

This will affect dwellings across all UK nations (England & Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland).

What does this mean for DEAs? Well, it will mean that a property lodged after these changes are implemented will likely have a better SAP rating than a property lodged before. This could have an impact on any properties which are currently on the borderline of E/F bands and their compliance to Private Rented MEES requirements.

This is a change that you should make any agents or landlords aware of, as a better SAP rating on a property, particularly if it means they will be able to let their property from April 2018, will always be advantageous.

A New Recommendation – Party Wall Insulation

The 9.93 update includes a new recommendation which will be displayed on the EPC.

In instances where the party wall type is input as “cavity masonry, unfilled”, it is likely to produce a recommendation. This would make identifying the appropriate type of party wall even more important.

As per RdSAP Convention 3.16: ***The primary method of identification is from a view of the party wall within the loft space. With brickwork, solely stretcher bonds indicate cavity construction while stretchers and headers indicate solid wall construction. A solid blockwork wall has blocks laid flat; the pattern looks like stretcher bond but the unit size is much larger.***

World Quality Day – 9th November 2017

Quidos are proud supporters of World Quality Day – in association with the Chartered Quality Institute. We have always prided ourselves on being at the forefront of promoting quality to our members and across the Industry as a whole. Any attendees of the IDEA Conference in Birmingham in October would have noted the impassioned address by Quidos Managing Director, Philip Salaman.



The theme for WQD 2017 will be **‘Celebrating Everyday Leadership’**. This is something Energy Assessors demonstrate when undertaking assessments and producing reports for their customers; embracing and promoting quality is a perfect way to make your own brand stand out within a saturated market.

Scheme Quality Manager, David Jones, has been working on a special CPD module focusing on a leadership approach to quality which will be launched for World Quality Day. Quidos will also have some special offers on our existing CPD modules to help cement your own professional qualities.

Keep your eye out on the Quidos website from 6th November for the latest: www.quidos.co.uk/training/

BEIS Guidance for Domestic MEES

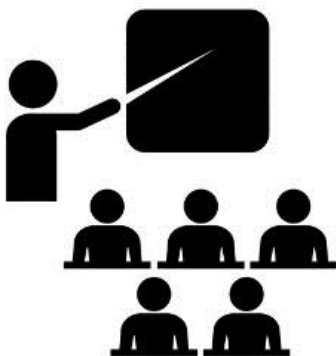
The Department for Business, Enterprise & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) have released their guidance document for the Energy Efficiency of Private Rented Property Regulations (MEES).

The document is around 90 pages and we have yet to fully break down the information that it contains. We will be processing this document and producing a range of CPD and guidance information for domestic energy assessors in the same way we have for the non-domestic requirements.

We should also remind DEAs that, in terms of these Regulations, your only requirement is produce a valid EPC in line with the current RdSAP methodology. Any subsequent actions are down to the landlord or agent and they should take advice from their trade organisations if they are unsure as to how to proceed if their property is found to be sub-standard. ARLA and RLA have both produced a range of information that Landlords should be referring to. It not the job of assessors or Accreditation Schemes to interpret the Regulations, however the trade organisations have taken a great deal of legal advice on what the position of Landlords should be, so they should be the first point of contact.

The BEIS Guidance document can be found within iQ-Energy; [CLICK HERE](#) to read.

Domestic Walls CPD Masterclass



This collection of Bitesize CPD modules gives an overview of system build wall construction, cavity wall construction, timber frame wall construction, stone wall construction and solid wall construction.

Correct entry of a property's wall construction is one of the most fundamentally important aspects of an energy assessment, and completion of this module will provide a firm understanding of various aspects relating to wall types.

To purchase this module, simply [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the specific page on the Quidos website. Completion of this Masterclass is equal to **2½ hours** of CPD.

