

All Energy 2006



Renewable Energy Installer Academy (REIA)

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Overview of presentation



- Why REIA?
- Background to REIA
- What is REIA?
- Technologies
- Training, Accreditation and registration of installers
- Quality Inspection



Why REIA ?



- No training available for installers / designers
- Not enough installers
- Examples of poor installations
- Need for Independent inspections
- Protecting the customers / building customer confidence
- Using Quality products



Background



- DETI / EU INTERREG funding - €1.5million 2005 – 2007
- Partnership between Action Renewables in NI & Sustainable Energy Ireland in ROI
- INTERREG region – NI and 6 border counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo.
- Pilot in INTERREG region and roll out across Ireland North and South.



Key elements of REIA



- www.reinstalleracademy.org
- Accredited training courses for installers and designers of renewable technologies
- Database of existing installers and installations completed
- Quality inspections
- Quality products
- Register of Approved Installers



Delivery Partners



- Training Institutes – North West, East Down, Lisburn, Omagh and Dundalk IT.
- European Advisors:
 - Arsenal Research – Heat pumps
 - Danish Energy Authority – Solar Water Heating, wind, PV and hydro
 - Austrian Bioenergy Centre - biomass.



Technologies



- Solar Water Heating – North West and Dundalk IT
- Heat Pumps – Lisburn and Dundalk IT
- Biomass – East Down and Dundalk IT
- Wind – Omagh
- PV and hydro – North West



Development of training courses



- Develop 3 - 4 day training course for each technology
- Set up training laboratories for solar thermal, heat pumps, biomass and small scale electricity
- Write training manuals and training materials for each technology
- European Advisors deliver training for Lecturers within each Institute
- First courses delivered to existing installers
- Training courses to be delivered to new installers





Biomass Training Laboratory in East Down Institute, Downpatrick









Process for an installer



- Application for appropriate training course – minimum entry requirements met
- Attendance at three / four day training, including half day practical training and examination.
- Pass examination and receive BPEC / FETAC certificate
- REIA issue registered installer package
- REIA inspect first installation
- Installer signs Code of Practice
- REIA issue registration card



Quality Inspection of installations



- Dedicated REIA Quality Inspectors
- 100% inspection of first installations
- Random inspections thereafter
- QI completes Inspection report
- REIA issue letter and report to installer
- Installer given 14 days to put right the defects
- Failure to comply means installer's registration is withdrawn



Code of Practice



- Sales and specification phase
- Installation phase
- Operation phase



Sales and specification phase



- Appropriate to requirements
- Integrates within building
- Sales method acceptable – how customers are treated
- Clear contracts – delivery on time
- Designed to comply with available standards
- Complaints handling process



Installation phase



- Correctly installed in line with training
- Tested and commissioned - performance
- Safe method of working



Operation phase



- Documentation provided to customer
- Warranty in place
- System robust / weather proof
- Ongoing maintenance



Progress to Date



- Two training laboratories installed for each of Solar Water, Heat pumps and biomass
- Training manuals and course materials devised for Solar Water, Heat pumps and biomass.
- Three courses delivered in Solar Water, Heat pumps and biomass.
- Courses schedule for delivery of Solar Water, Heat pump and biomass.
- Courses for Wind, PV and hydro to commence September 2006.



Conclusion



- BPEC accredited training courses for Solar, Heat Pump and biomass
- City & Guilds accredited courses for wind, PV and hydro
- Training for Architects, designers and specifiers
- Quality inspection of installations
- Code of Practice
- REIA database of installers and installations completed
- REIA register of approved installers

