

Good Practices for Equipment & Installers

The Installers' Newsletter – Edition 1

This newsletter is one of a series being produced by SEI. The aim of this newsletter is to publish and share good practice for installers in the areas of Biomass, Solar and Heat Pump installations under the Greener Home Scheme. The items in this newsletter have arisen out of inspections being carried out by SEI of installations under the Greener Homes Scheme. This edition focuses on wood chip or pellet boilers and stoves.



Biomass

Flue Outlets – It has been noticed that some flues have been shorter than required or not an adequate distance from opening windows or wall ventilators leading to potential health and safety concerns.

Flue design and installation should be compliant with Building Regulations Technical Guidance Document J which applies in all such installations

The regulations are available on the Department of Environment's website:

<http://www.environ.ie>

(under Building Regulations tab)

Pellet Storage - Care should be taken to ensure that the pellet storage area is dry and protected from moisture to prevent degradation.

It is recommended that when supplying a customer with an initial fill of pellets, installers should use pellets which comply with DINplus or ÖNORM M 7135 with a diameter of 6 mm.

Poor pellet quality can greatly interfere with the functioning of the heating system. Customers should also be advised to purchase pellets conforming to the above quality specification.

Pellet Suppliers - SEI publishes a list of pellet suppliers on its website. Please let suppliers or distributors know that they should contact SEI if they would like to be included on this list.

Insulation of Pipe Work – Installations generally have insulation around pipe work however more attention needs to be paid to valves and fittings.

Sufficient insulation needs to be applied to all pipe work including valves and fittings to avoid unnecessary heat loss.

Ventilation – Installations should not solely rely on air infiltration and leakage in the boiler room to provide air for combustion. Dedicated ventilation should be provided for combustion air as per Technical Guidance Document J in order to ensure the continued safe and satisfactory operation of the appliance.

Installers are advised to take care that all manufacturer specific ventilation requirements are met.

Vent Pipes / Safety Valves – Care should be taken to ensure that all safety valves are piped to ground level to avoid any possible danger of scalding. This could be a potential health and safety concern.