

# Prove your energy reductions... ...by having them independently verified.

## Overview

With the Government's increasing focus on reducing the UK's carbon dioxide emissions and its contribution to climate change, many organisations are recognising the need to manage their energy consumption and prove their reductions in energy use to clients, shareholders and regulators alike.

Indeed, many organisations will be required to report on their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy use and participate in energy reduction schemes such as the recently introduced Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC).

The energy management system standard BS EN 16001 already provides companies with the framework to identify and manage their energy use. However, the standard does not go as far as verifying their energy reductions.

BSI now offers an independent verification scheme giving companies



the ability to demonstrate to clients, shareholders and regulators that they have made real reductions in energy use.

The Kitemark Energy Reduction Verification (ERV) scheme builds on an organisation's good energy management practices and independently verifies the output of that good practice.

The scheme not only confirms the management and measurement behind the figures but also confirms the reductions in carbon emissions.

A Kitemark certificate is awarded to a company that has:

- an effective energy management system
- identified and assessed their significant energy uses
- reduced their energy use by a minimum of 2.5% each year

They can determine the boundaries of both their organisation and their activities, including transport, to be covered in the scheme.

## Meeting the CRC

*The Kitemark ERV has been written such that it can be used by companies to meet the Early Action Metric of the CRC.*

## FEATURES AND BENEFITS OF KITEMARK® ERV

- **Year on year energy sources include electricity, gas and other onsite fuel consumption** – businesses have the choice to maintain the minimum scope as required for the CRC and exclude transport or expand as appropriate.
- **Verification is based on the energy management systems standard BS EN 16001** – Kitemark ERV is easy to implement for those already familiar with management system standards; and, for businesses that don't already have management systems in place, it allows a future upgrade to an effective energy management system that can identify opportunities for further reductions.
- **Duration of verifications are based on numbers of employees and type of organisation as well as energy spend** – meaning many more categories and therefore flexibility in pricing.

# How can BSI help?

## The verification process

The verification is conducted by one of BSI's highly trained and experienced client managers and is delivered in two stages.

### Stage 1

The first stage of the assessment focuses on the system. It ensures that the organisation has defined and implemented an effective methodology for assessing energy aspects, and has taken into consideration the energy factors that have an impact on energy use for the defined scope.

### Stage 2

In normal circumstances the Stage 2 assessment is conducted between one month after the Stage 1 assessment and within six months of the end of the compliance year.

The Stage 2 assessment focuses on the implementation and effectiveness of the energy management system, and in particular upon operational activities and the controls applied.

The energy consumption data, and the energy reduction are verified and a verification report is completed. This document allows the client manager to record the energy aspects and the energy reduction taking into account energy factors which affect each activity over a given time period. The inputs – in kWh or fuel used – are converted to tCO<sub>2</sub>e and the change over the defined period is calculated.

## Kitemark® certificate issue

Subject to a successful assessment and demonstration of a minimum 2.5% reduction, a Kitemark certificate will be issued. The certificate is valid for two years from the end of the compliance year. During and after this time the organisation may decide to verify further year-on-year reductions.

## Next steps

There are a number of ways to move towards a Kitemark ERV certificate:

### • Gap analysis

If you are looking for assurance that you have all the key elements covered, then why not consider having a gap analysis? This one day assessment will give you peace of mind that all the basics are in place and that you are heading in the right direction.

### • Consultancy

For reasons of independency and integrity, BSI does not offer consultancy directly. However, if you need help with the implementation of your energy management system and the gathering of energy consumption data, we can provide you access to our network of independent consultants from our Associate Consultants Programme.

### • Combining with BS EN 16001 certification

In order to ensure that you continue to identify the opportunities to reduce your energy consumption, then you may want to consider combining your Kitemark ERV with an assessment of your energy management system to BS EN 16001.

For further information or to get a quote, please contact us.

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The Kitemark ERV certification can be used on your stationery, literature and vehicles when you have successfully achieved certification.

