

PRESS RELEASE



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New Ricardo-AEA advice service assists energy efficiency compliance

Ricardo-AEA has launched a new service to keep organizations fully informed on how different Member States are implementing Article 8 of the European Union's (EU) Energy Efficiency Directive and, crucially, what requirements their business must meet before 5 December 2015

The Directive is designed to support the delivery of the EU's 2020 20 percent target for increased energy efficiency. Article 8 of the Directive requires 'large' organizations to undertake regular energy efficiency audits. For UK purposes, 'large' companies are defined as either employing more than 250 people or having an annual turnover or balance sheet value exceeding pre-set limits. Each Member State will interpret and implement Article 8 within their national context but crucially, all organizations will need to comply with the relevant national interpretations by 5 December 2015.

Paul Maryan, managing consultant at Ricardo-AEA, said "We are fast approaching the deadline for businesses to demonstrate compliance with Article 8. While the UK has set out its interpretation of Article 8 within its Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS), many EU Member States have yet to prepare their national response to the Directive. This doesn't give organizations with operations across Europe a lot of time to understand the still emerging national interpretations and ensure local compliance.



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“Ricardo-AEA’s new Article 8 Compliance Alerts service provides organizations with monthly updates on the countries that are specifically relevant to their operations, highlighting the steps they need to take to ensure their activities are fully compliant by 5 December. This invaluable, time-saving service will enable companies to have the essential information about energy efficiency compliance delivered straight to their inbox.”

Ricardo-AEA worked with the UK’s Department of Energy and Climate Change to provide national guidance on ESOS and is now monitoring how different Member States implement Article 8 for the European Commission.

Further information on the compliance alerts service can be found on Ricardo-AEA’s website: <http://www.ricardo-aea.com/cms/article-8-compliance-alerts-LnG>.

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The Energy Efficiency Directive promotes energy efficiency within the EU. It is divided into a series of Articles and Article 8 requires all Member States to mandate energy efficiency improvement opportunity audits for all non-SMEs at least every four years. It is the legislation behind the UK's Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme (ESOS). Different Member States are at different stages in the implementation of Article 8, despite being required to ensure that all affected organizations comply by 5th December 2015. What constitutes a 'large' organization will be determined by individual Member States. In the UK this has been set at:

- Any UK company that either employs 250 or more people, or has an annual turnover in excess of 50 million euro (£38,937,777), and an annual balance sheet total in excess of 43 million euro (£33,486,489)
- An overseas company with a UK registered establishment which has 250 or more UK employees (paying income tax in the UK)

Ricardo-AEA is an operating division of Ricardo plc comprising the former business of AEA Europe. The consultancy has an exceptional breadth of capability in energy and climate change, air quality, sustainable transport, waste management, resource efficiency and chemical risk. With around 400 staff based in the UK, the company's capabilities are underpinned by the experience gained from supporting governments and business-leaders around the world for over 40 years.

Ricardo plc is a global, world-class, multi-industry consultancy for engineering, technology, project innovation and strategy. Our people are committed to providing outstanding value through quality engineering solutions focused on high efficiency, low emission, class-leading product innovation and robust strategic implementation. With almost a century of delivering value through technology, our client list includes the world's major transportation original equipment manufacturers, supply chain organizations, energy companies, financial institutions and governments. Guided by our corporate values of respect, integrity, creativity & innovation and passion, we enable our customers to achieve sustainable growth and commercial success. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

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