



Dear SNIEF Member

## **APPROVED CERTIFIER OF CONSTRUCTION SCHEME (DRAINAGE, PLUMBING AND HEATING)**

The Building (Scotland) Act 2003 introduced a new Building Standards system for Scotland that raises standards and simplifies the approval of many construction activities for the public, Verifiers (local authorities) and the industry.

The new Building Standards legislation also provided for the appointment of Approved certifiers of Design and **Approved Certifiers of Construction**. Properly qualified professionals can become Certifiers and have the authority to certify work for building warrant purposes.

SNIEF has recently been approved by the Scottish Ministers to run the above scheme which will allow individuals (Approved Certifiers of Construction) to “self-certify” drainage, plumbing and heating work which is subject to a Building Warrant. The Approved Certifier must be employed by a business (Approved Body) who is a member of the plumbing industry licensing scheme which is operated by SNIEF

There are many benefits in operating the scheme:

***1 Your client will pay a reduced building warrant fee if they advise the Local Authority that they are using an Approved Certifier of Construction;***

***2 You will be able to “Self Certify” (as long as you have demonstrated your technical competency) above or below ground drainage, heating installations (gas, oil, solid fuel boilers), unvented systems, micro-renewables (biomass, solar and heat pumps) and electrical work associated with any of these installations, which is subject to a building warrant;***

***3 Local Authority Building Control Departments (now known as Verifiers) cannot refuse to accept an Approved Certifiers certificate and nor can they ask to inspect work which has been certified by an Approved Certifier;***

***4 You will be able to use a logo which will contain the Scottish Government logo and which will indicate that you are a Scottish Government “Approved” contractor;***

***5 You will appear in the Scottish Government Approved Certifier website***

To apply, you will need to complete and return the attached application forms. Please note that you will need to submit documentary evidence of your qualifications for each scope of the scheme you wish to certify.



Attached to this letter are the following:

- 1 The scheme scope and required technical qualifications for Approved Certifiers of Construction;
- 2 An application form to become an Approved Body (AB);
- 3 An application to become an Approved Certifier of Construction (ACC).

In the first instance if your business wishes to operate the scheme you should complete and return the relevant AB and ACC application forms together with all supporting information and fees.

The fees for the scheme are as follows:

Approved Body fee - SNIPEF member **£0** non-member £350

Approved Certifier of Construction fee - £50 pp plus vat per year.

On receipt, we will advise you of the details and dates of the Approved Certifier of Construction courses we will be running in your area. You should note however that you and any other ACCs you have nominated will only be able to attend the course if you meet all of the Approved Body and ACC criteria. Your business will only become an Approved Body and you/your operative an Approved Certifier on successful completion of the course.

For more information please contact the SNIPEF Membership Services Department.

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