

KIWA LTD.

KIWA WATERTEC CERTIFICATION SCHEMES.

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT KW001 Issue 4 (January 2021).

1. Scope.

1.0. This Document specifies the constitution of the Kiwa UK Certification Schemes which includes Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 Product Approval Scheme, Thermostatic Mixing Valve Scheme (TMV Type 2 and 3) and the Unvented hot water Storage Cylinders Scheme to requirements of UK Building Regulations.

The document is Intended to inform the water industry, general public, and manufacturers of the aims of the schemes and to promote an active understanding of the route to product approval and the terms and conditions under which such an approval is granted.

2. Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 Scheme (Reg 4 Compliance).

2.0. From the 1st July 1999 the duty of ensuring the correct installation, commissioning, maintenance and use of water fittings for the supply of wholesome water within the boundaries of properties and their curtilages in England and Wales has been regulated by means of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 which were incorporated in law by means of the SI 1999 No 1148 and amendment SI 1999 No 1506.

2.1. These “Water Regulations” replaced the now revoked Water Supply Byelaws made in 1987 in England and Wales by the numerous water undertakings. Similarly, in Scotland, The Water Supply (Water Fittings) (Scotland) Byelaws 2014 revoked the previous Scottish Water Byelaws 2004, and the current Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 revoked the previous Water Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991. (Collectively referred to in this document as “Water Regulations”)

2.2. The purpose of the Water Regulations remains, as with the previous Water Supply Byelaws, the prevention Contamination, Waste, Misuse or Undue Consumption, of water supplied by the water undertaker. The Regulations also included the prevention of erroneous measurement of water supplied by the water undertaker.

2.3. It is the statutory duty of persons installing or using a water supply which is conveyed by a water undertaker to comply with the requirements of these Water Regulations.

2.4. It is a requirement of the Water Regulations that every water fitting shall be of an “appropriate quality and standard; and be suitable for the circumstances for which it is used”. The requirements as to this regulation are considered to have been met where, amongst other methods, the water fitting complies to an “appropriate British Standard” or it “conforms to a specification approved by the Regulator”. The Specification “approved by the Regulator” is a freely available public document of testing requirements for the majority of water fittings, which is available on-line for public inspection. The “Regulator” was originally the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions and the National Assembly of Wales. In England it has now evolved to become the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

2.5 It is not a requirement in law that a manufacturer is necessitated to seek confirmation of a water fitting’s ability to meet the Water Supply, (Water Fittings) Regulations Criteria prior to his offering of a device for sale. It is, however, a requirement that the installer or user, having purchased such a device, satisfies themselves as to the compliance of a fitting with the appropriate Regulation(s). When water is supplied from the public water supply by the statutory Water Undertaking.

2.6 The enforcement of the Water Regulations is a statutory responsibility of the Water Undertakers and they employ water regulations officers to offer advice or attend at site and examine water systems installed in properties so as to ensure compliance. They are empowered to visit all premises to which any undertaker has made or is to make a supply available under the meaning of the legislation and within their statutory powers.

2.7. In particular it is a requirement upon installers or users that appropriate notification is given, in writing, prior to the installation of particular fittings; and that the fittings and water systems subject to notification are not installed without consent.

2.8 A method of ensuring compliance with the Regulations, (with respect to both fittings and materials) and to ensure users or installers have confidence in a Products compliance, is for manufacturers or users of Water Fittings (connected to the water undertakings supplies) is to apply to an appropriate acceptance or certification body and for them to undertake testing to the appropriate test and acceptance criteria.

2.9 Such a Scheme is ~~that~~ operated under the auspices of the KIWA UK Water Regulations (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 Product Approval Scheme, hereinafter called KIWA Watertec Water Regulations Scheme. And for a number of years has included Thermostatic Mixing Valves and Unvented Hot Water Systems in addition to our approval of standard water fittings and materials

3. KIWA UK Certification Schemes.

3.0. As stated above, the relevant regulations require that every water fitting is of an appropriate quality and standard. A method by which this quality and standard may be assured is the KIWA Watertec Product Approval Scheme's, which is to assess products against those standards deemed acceptable by the UK Water Undertakings and other national and international Regulation enforcement agencies e.g. Building Regulations or relevant appropriate standard.

3.1. The Schemes evaluates products presented for approval by evaluating the test results of approved laboratories. The Scheme will consider test results submitted by the following.

- (a) A laboratory which has in place a quality assurance scheme accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) or an overseas laboratory operating to a multilateral agreement accepted by the European co-operation for accreditation (EA), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) or the International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC).
- (b) A Test Certificate produced by a recognised European or other national Accreditation Body, which is testing to an appropriate British or European Standard accepted by the UK water undertakers as meeting the requirements of the Water Regulations, and in addition is accepted by the Scheme.
- (c) Where manufacturers undertake testing by means of an appropriate test facility acceptable to the Scheme.

3.2. The operation of the Schemes and the acceptance of products presented for test will be conducted in accordance with the Scheme's current criteria (as stated in the relevant Product Evaluation Guideline).

3.3. The Scheme will only accept applications submitted in accordance with the KIWA Watertec's current Application Form, and it's supporting literature. The Application Form(s) may be submitted by Manufacturers, their Agents or Factors. The Scheme will allow manufacturers to submit Schedules of Materials generated by their internal work systems which satisfy the requirements of the KIWA Application criteria.

3.4. All appropriate materials shall comply with the Regulator's Specification.

3.5. The results of the material and mechanical testing will be considered by appropriate person(s) of KIWA Watertec who will be responsible for the issue of certificates of approval stating that the product(s) meet(s) the requirements of the Regulator's Criteria or an appropriate British or European Standard. And in

accordance with BS EN ISO-IEC 17025 (Testing Laboratory) and ISO-IEC 17065 (Certification Company) as appropriate

3.6. The certificates of approval will be valid for a period of five years from the issue date of the certificate. Failure to re-apply and receive approval will result in the automatic respite of the product listing.

3.7. The operation of the Scheme and the issuing of the certificates of approval will be overseen by an independent Impartiality and Acceptance Committee (IAC) and the Certification requirements of the Schemes shall be verified by the Kiwa Watertec Expert Group. Both groups are defined as follows:

- a. Impartiality and Acceptance Committee (IAC)
To review ensure requirements of impartially are met to both BS EN ISO-IEC 17025 (Testing Laboratory) and ISO-IEC 17065 (Certification Company)

To allow manufacturers to present in confidence of confidentiality products/designs or ~~and~~ ideas to establish (in the opinion of the committee) if their proposals would not conflict with the requirements of UK Water and /or Building Regulations.

- b. Kiwa Watertec Expert Group.
To ensure all aspects of 17065 certification are met.

To ensure review the and accept the Kiwa UK Evaluation Guidelines.

To allow manufacturers a route of appeal under 17065 certification schemes (as defined in the Kiwa Rules of Certification).

3.8. The Structure—of both the Impartiality and Acceptance Committee (IAC) and the Kiwa Watertec Expert Group will consist of recognised experts, including those experts in the testing of water products to the Regulator’s Criteria, experts who are familiar with the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations and the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations and Building Regulations, or representatives of appropriate trade bodies concerned in the manufacture and installation of water fittings and materials. The Committee Members are required to comply with the requirements of current Competition Law.

3.9. Any appropriate trade body can apply for membership of the Impartiality and Acceptance Committee (IAC) and/or the Kiwa Watertec Expert Group; the Scheme also welcomes participation by Representatives of the Water Undertakings and by National Consumer organisations, appropriate government organisations etc. The IAC will hold responsibility for acceptance of new members but shall not un-necessarily withhold such membership.

3.10. Manufacturers or their agents, factors or representatives may only attend formal meetings at the invitation of the IAC and only for that part of the meeting which is to discuss their product.

3.11. All members of the IAC and Expert Group, excluding KIWA Watertec Employees and the Secretary shall have voting powers.

3.12. The Chair shall be elected from the membership and will generally have the casting vote in the event of a tie. The Chair will temporarily stand down and a Vice-Chair be elected where the meeting considers matters where a declaration of conflicting interest arises.

3.13. The Scheme's overseeing committee's will employ a Secretary whose duties will be:

- To advise the Committee's on technical issues relating to the testing of products.
- To advise the Committee's as to the proposed agenda and to take notes of and to produce the minutes of meetings.

3.14. The Scheme committees will be required to meet at least annually, its duties will be:

- To consider and advise **KIWA Watertec** on any matters presented to either committee for consideration.
- To review biennially the appointment of the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the Committee's. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary are appointed for a two year term and then reviewed.