

News release

Engineering

January 8, 2009

ALLIANZ ENGINEERING WARNS BUSINESSES OF COST FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

Allianz Engineering is reminding businesses of the need to comply with the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations or risk being hit with substantial fines.

The regulations have been phased in since April 2008 and the latest stage, which came into force on January 4, 2009, requires the first inspection of all existing air-conditioning systems* to have taken place, followed by regular inspections to ensure the energy efficiency of systems.

The inspection, which is carried out by an accredited energy assessor, includes an efficiency assessment, a review of system sizing plus recommendations to achieve energy reductions and savings in running costs. The regulations are enforced by Trading Standards and businesses face penalty charges of up to £5000 if they are breached.

Steve Ford, special services manager, Allianz Engineering, said: "Commercial properties and public buildings currently account for nearly 25% of the UK's carbon emissions, contributing to global climate change. The ways in which we light, heat and use buildings all contribute to this. Even small improvements to the energy performance and the way we use our buildings could have a significant effect on our fuel bills and carbon emissions."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1 – *Where total capacity is greater than 250kW, not including those installed on or after January 1, 2008.

2 – More information about the legislation, timescales and our full suite of Energy Services can be found on our website www.allianzengineering.co.uk or www.allianzbroker.co.uk

3 – Allianz Engineering is a market leader in the provision of engineering insurance, inspections and energy services and is therefore well placed to comment on the impact of the new legislation.

4 – Allianz Insurance is one of the UK's leading general insurers and part of the Allianz SE Group, one of the world's largest financial institutions with 80 million customers in more than 70 countries. Allianz Insurance is rated AA-/Stable by Standard and Poor's and is able to offer customers a wide range of commercial and personal insurance products.

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