Part G gets into hot water

The new Part G Building Regulations have changed the way cylinders must be installed, explains Geoff Legginton of HWA member Advance Appliances.

Building Regulation Part G changed this year, with its new additions affecting the way unvented systems must be installed. The Hot Water Association (HWA) has developed a series of diagrams to interpret the current requirements in a straightforward, easy to understand manner.

This series of diagrams has been produced and uploaded to the HWA website, which can be accessed at www.hotwaterassociation.org.uk. They can be downloaded free of charge, and show how Part G can be met in a number of different circumstances, including mains-pressure and tank-fed hot water storage cylinders.

Unvented systems keep the same level of control while openvented (tank fed) cylinders must be installed with additional levels of control.

Thermal stores are more closely defined by the new HWA specification and are also shown diagrammatically. Installers can download the full thermal specification from the HWA website.

Guidance for solid fuel and biomass systems is currently being developed and will appear on the website shortly to supplement the existing advice.

HWA members are seeing a huge rise in the number of technical enquiries seeking advice on linking solid fuel and biomass systems to hot water systems. It is possible with both mains- and tank-fed systems and will open up a wider choice to the trade.

In turn, installers can offer consumers more environmentally friendly fuel sources while enjoying the benefits of mains pressure hot water services.

The Hot Water Association promotes hot water storage and is made up of manufacturers within the sector, a number of associated companies supplying controls and other ancillary equipment, as well as some of the larger industry players such as British Gas.

The HWA has been involved in the development of the Building Regulations and works with government to ensure that the highest standards are met within the constraints of offering the trade a practical and competitive product.

The Association has also been proactive in the development and promotion of using hot water storage with renewable energy. Without hot water storage, harvesting renewable energy would be difficult.