

DIARY DATES

Exhibitions

Over the next few months, you can visit the Worcester stand at any one of the following exhibitions, where a selection of our latest 'A' rated gas and oil-fired boilers and renewable technologies will be on display.

For further information visit www.worcester-bosch.co.uk and click on the events page.

May 2008

Grand Designs Live Stand B200 Excel, London 3 – 11 May	OFTEC Norfolk 14 May	NEMEX Stand W61 NEC, Birmingham 20 – 22 May
PHEX West Ham United FC 8 May	Scottish HBR Stand 511 SECC, Glasgow 17 – 18 May	All Energy Aberdeen 21 – 22 May

June 2008

BBC Summer Festival Stand H220 NEC, Birmingham 11 – 15 June	OFTEC Carlisle 18 June
CIH Stand A28 Harrogate International Centre 17 – 19 June	Homebuilding and Renovating Show Stand 101 Newbury Showground 28 – 29 June

County Shows:

MAY	JUNE	
Leicestershire 4 – 5 May	Three Counties, Malvern 13 – 15 June	Shropshire and West Midlands 21 – 22 June
South Suffolk 11 May	Royal Cornwall 18 – 19 June	Royal Norfolk 25 – 26 June
Royal Bath and West 28 – 31 May	Lincolnshire 18 – 19 June	
Royal Cornwall 13 – 15 May		

CORGI Road show:

MAY	
Canterbury	1 May
Belfast	8 May
Newcastle	13 May
Leeds	14 May
York	15 May
Liverpool	20 May
Manchester	21 May
Chester	22 May
Bournemouth	28 May
Bath	29 May
JUNE	
Doncaster	3 June
Derby/Notts	4 June
Aberdeen	10 June
Glasgow	11 June
York	15 June
Edinburgh	12 June
Plymouth	18 June
Isle of Man	24 June

MAY 2008

THE INSTALLER'S CHOICE

New technology

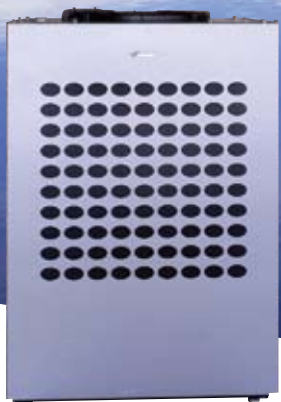
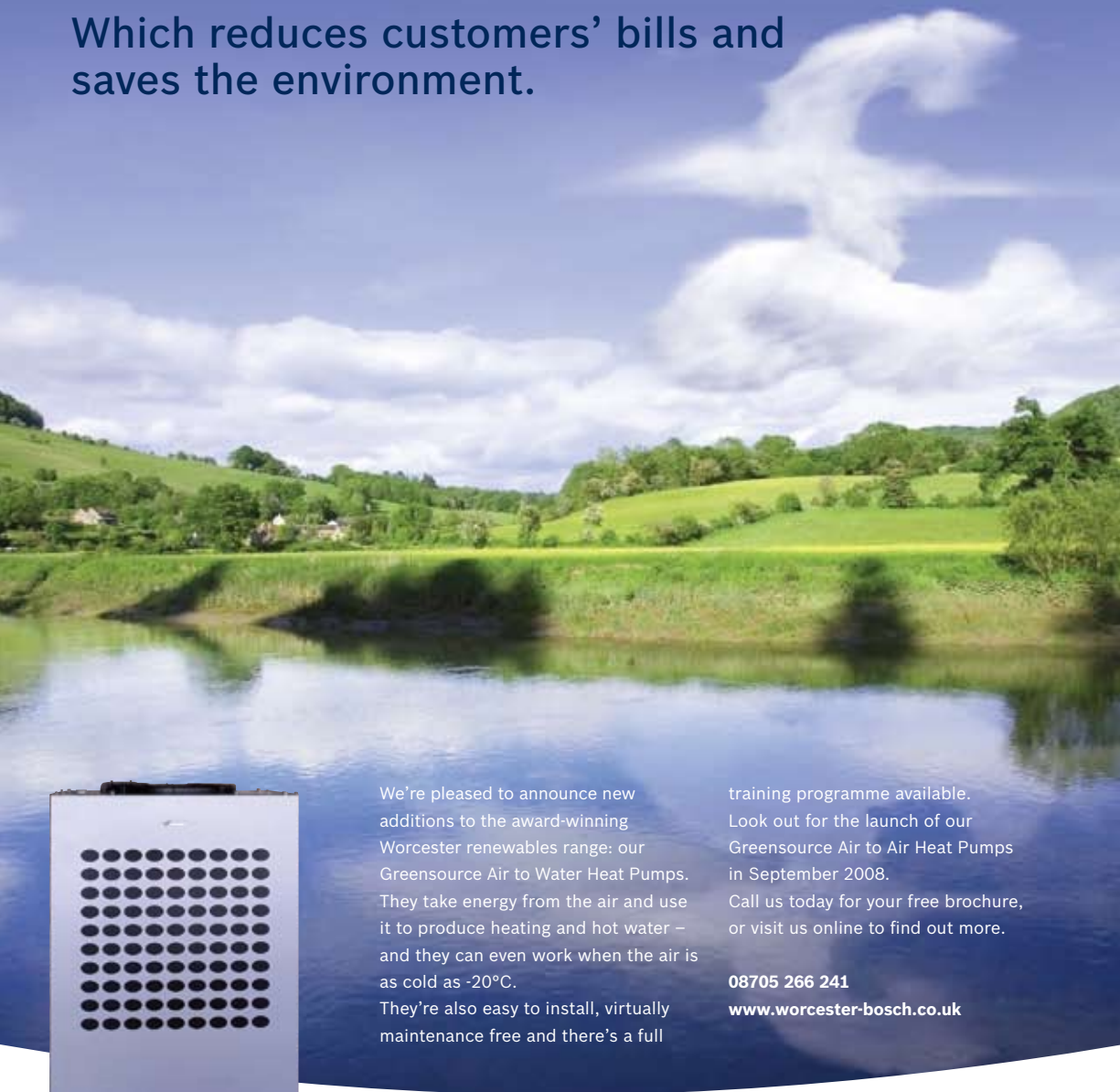
Worcester to release new air source heat pumps

Bradford Training Centre officially opens

Promotion

up to £400 cash-back for consumers

How do you save money with fresh air?
 With our Greensource Air Source Heat Pumps.
 They run without gas or oil.
 Which reduces customers' bills and
 saves the environment.



We're pleased to announce new additions to the award-winning Worcester renewables range: our Greensource Air to Water Heat Pumps. They take energy from the air and use it to produce heating and hot water – and they can even work when the air is as cold as -20°C. They're also easy to install, virtually maintenance free and there's a full

training programme available. Look out for the launch of our Greensource Air to Air Heat Pumps in September 2008. Call us today for your free brochure, or visit us online to find out more.

08705 266 241
www.worcester-bosch.co.uk



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 from Worcester



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Welcome from Richard Soper

Hello and welcome to the May issue of Installer's Choice. Renewable technologies have made a huge impact on the industry in the last few years, with more and more consumers making a conscious effort to reduce their own carbon footprint. The addition of air source heat pumps to our portfolio will open up even more opportunities for you, your business and your customers. Turn to pages 6 and 7 to find out more.

Not only are we extending our product offering, this month we're also giving you more opportunities to support your consumers with our solar cash-back promotion on page 5. And, not forgetting the importance of helping installers install Worcester products in their own homes, our trade cash-back promotion runs until the end of June. This should give everyone the chance to benefit from fantastic savings on products and on fuel bills too.

On pages 9 and 14 our very own Martyn Bridges will be filling us in on the latest information on the Code for Sustainable Homes, as well as suggesting some expert trouble shooting tips for dealing with oil-fired boiler installations.

We'll also hear from two installers – Richard Bate and Andy Moore from

Evesham Mechanical Services, who installed 10 Greenskies solar panels on a Cotswold Manor house and Gary Smith from SG Plumbing and Heating who installed Greenskies solar panels on his own home. Find out more on pages 10, 12 and 13!

On our news pages, we take a look at the grand opening of our Bradford training centre and some of Worcester's most recent fundraising achievements. Every year our team chooses a national charity to support. Last year we chose Cancer Research UK and with the help of our friends and families and generous donations from our customers, we have managed to raise a huge amount of money for a charity that most people can relate to.

Also included in this month's edition is your free copy of the Environment 2010 brochure, featuring all the winners from 2007. I am also delighted to announce we are extending the initiative for the first time and renaming it the Environment 2020 awards. Details on how to enter can be found inside your brochure.

Enjoy the magazine.

Richard Soper
 Managing Director

Pretty in Pink

Worcester raises £50,000 for Cancer Research UK

Worcester raised a staggering £50,000 for Cancer Research UK in 2007, thanks to the help of its generous employees and customers.

The team at Worcester organised a number of fundraising events throughout the year, which saw employees dressing up in all manner of outfits – including one male employee turning up in a pink tu-tu!

Richard Soper, managing director at Worcester, Bosch Group, explains: “At the end of 2006 our workforce voted for the charity they wished to support throughout 2007. As research shows, cancer touches one in three of us at some point in our lives so it seemed only fitting to choose Cancer Research UK.

“We had two aims when it came to supporting Cancer Research UK; the first was to raise valuable funds for the cause and the second to promote cancer awareness. We held several fundraising events throughout the year, including a ‘pink day’ in aid of breast cancer, where employees were sponsored to come to work wearing pink. We sold pink cakes, the canteen provided pink food and one of our male employees donned a fetching tu-tu for the occasion.

“The biggest event we held was Worcester’s first CRUK Relay for Life event, in September 2007. Teams from



around Worcester came together to raise money for the national cancer charity by taking part in a 24 hour ‘relay’ at Nunnery Wood Sports complex. Worcester had eighteen teams participating and each of these

had to ensure there was at least one team member on the track throughout the 24 hours. The event had a real party atmosphere, which started with a lap of honour for people who had beaten cancer.”

Tell us what you think

Every month we’re asking readers of Installer’s Choice a question to ensure we are offering the right services. This month we’re asking: What is your opinion of our technical help line? Please send your comments to r.soper@uk.bosch.com



Martyn Bridges, Clive Dickin, Phil Bunce and Steve Lister were on hand to open Bradford's new training centre

Bradford training centre Grand Opening

Worcester’s new training facility in Bradford had its grand opening on 11 April, with Clive Dickin, CEO of the APHC, on hand to welcome guests and officially open the new centre.

The day saw many of Worcester’s customers and key trade magazine journalists in attendance and began with a presentation from director of sales, Steve Lister and training

manager Phil Bunce, followed by a tour of the new fully equipped building.

Phil comments: “The new venue in Bradford joins our other training centres in Worcester, West Thurrock, Clay Cross and Bangor in Northern Ireland, giving our installers’ in the North East of the country an even better opportunity to train with Worcester.



“It features the latest high-efficiency gas and oil-fired boilers from Worcester, as well as offering installation and commissioning courses for our Greenskies solar and Greenstore ground source heat pump series.”

To find out more about Worcester’s training courses visit the new website at www.worcester-bosch.co.uk

Consumer Cash-Back

Worcester has created the perfect sales opportunity for installers with the introduction of a consumer cash-back promotion on our Greenskies solar series sold between 2 April and 31 July 2008*.

If you would like to find out more about the Greenskies solar series or any of Worcester’s renewable products, take a look at the ‘Installer’ section of the website, www.worcester-bosch.co.uk, or speak to your area representative.

*To qualify for this promotion, you will need to be a Worcester Accredited Solar installer or possess the relevant BPEC qualification for solar installations.

Here’s how the benefits of going green with Worcester really add up

Purchase a Greenskies solar water heating system and get

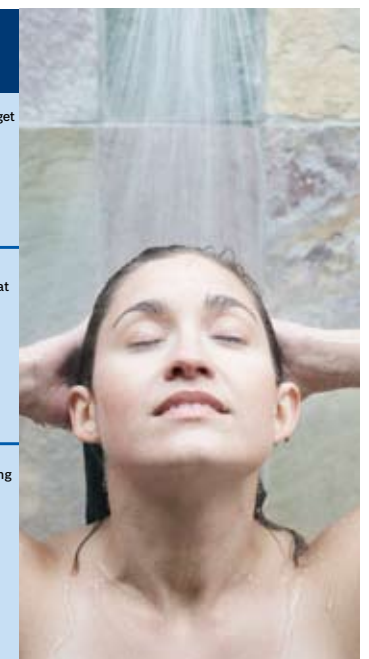
£300
householder cash-back

Purchase a Greenskies twin-coil hot water cylinder at the same time and get a further

£50
householder cash-back

Purchase a Greenstar gas, LPG or oil-fired condensing boiler at the same time as your Greenskies solar system and get a further

£50
householder cash-back



Worcester to release new air source technology

Worcester will add to its ever-growing renewable product portfolio this summer by launching two new air source heat pump (ASHP) options – beginning with air-to-water heat pumps in June and air-to-air heat pumps in September. Over the next couple of months, Installer's Choice will keep you up-to-date with all the background information you need on this renewable technology.

What is an air source heat pump (ASHP)?

ASHP's can be sited in both new build as well as existing properties, offering a fresh alternative for environmentally conscious homeowners looking for a heating system with minimal CO₂ emissions. In the same way a fridge extracts energy from the air and cools the inside of the fridge, an air source heat pump extracts energy from the outdoor air and uses it to heat a home and its hot water supply. Air-to-water systems heat a building through radiators or an under-floor heating system, whilst air-to-air systems produce warm air which is circulated for space heating.

How does an air-to-water heat pump work?

In an air-to-water system the air is used to heat water, which is used to pre-heat a storage cylinder. Water is then taken from the cylinder and circulated around either the radiators or preferably an under-floor heating system. As heat pumps are more efficient when producing hot water at a lower temperature than a standard boiler system (typically 35-45°C) they are most effective for under-floor heating.

How does an air-to-air heat pump work?

Air-to-air systems convert the energy from the outside air into heat using the same technique as air-to-water heat pumps and then circulate warm air internally to a comfortable temperature. And an extra benefit, these heat pumps also operate as an air cooler and purifier (which is ideal for allergy sufferers) using Plasmacluster Ion-technology.

What are the benefits?

- Don't require the use, or storage, of external fuel as they run on electricity, therefore eliminating the need for a gas connection or storage of oil/solid fuel.
- Only need one outside wall, making them ideal for apartments and homes with limited outside space.
- With no need for buried underground coils installation costs are reduced significantly, compared to ground source heat pumps.
- Produce a maximum flow temperature of 65°C and are able to work at an outdoor temperature of -20°C and have an auto-defrost function.
- Designed to be connected to all types of wet heating systems.

How is the efficiency of air source heat pumps measured?

Performance is measured by the Coefficient of Performance (CoP). CoP's for air source systems are comparable with ground source heat pumps and generally range between 3 and 4. This means that for every unit of electricity used to power the pump, 3-4 units of heat are produced, making it an efficient way of heating a building.

Where is an air-to-water heat pump most suitable?

Before thinking about installing an air source heat pump, you should consider the following:

- You will need an external area to site the heat pump unit.
- The heat pump must be positioned to allow air to pass freely through the evaporator (min 300mm from the wall).
- As air source heat pumps generally produce hot water at a lower temperature, the property should be well insulated and draught proofed. This will lower heat demand and make the system more effective.
- Consider what fuel is being replaced – air source heat pumps



are a good option particularly where gas is unavailable.

- Is the system for a new property? Combining the installation with other building works can reduce costs.
- To further reduce a property's CO₂ emissions consider installing a renewable electricity generating system to power the compressor and pump.

Will air source products be popular in the UK?

Air source heat pump technology has become increasingly popular in the Swedish market and as it's more than suited to the UK's comparatively

“

Is the system for a new property? Combining the installation with other building works can reduce costs.

”

mild winters it was felt that these products should be developed to suit UK requirements. Worcester has been working hard to test and perfect these products over recent months and is now putting the final pieces together ready to launch the air-to-water air source heat pump in June. It is anticipated that ASHP's could become a very popular alternative to traditional heating systems in the next few years.

For more information about Worcester's energy efficient or renewable products contact 01905 754 624 or visit www.worcester-bosch.co.uk



In this month's Installer's Choice we hear from Mark Walker, European marketing director for Sentinel.



IT'S SIMPLE. CLEAN HEATING SYSTEMS WORK BETTER!

Here at Sentinel, we have recently published extracts from the first ever independent research programme into the benefits of chemical water treatment, undertaken on our behalf by GasTEC.

This followed the changes in Building Regulations for Conservation of Fuel & Power (Approved Document L – England and Wales), confirmed in the Domestic Heating Compliance Guide that details how to comply with the new regulations. The guide specifically requires the use of chemical inhibitors for new build heating systems and when a new boiler is fitted to an existing heating system.

The guide says "Central heating systems should be thoroughly cleaned and flushed out before installing a new boiler. During final filling of a system, a chemical water treatment formulation should be added to the primary circuit to control corrosion and the formation of scale and sludge."

The research confirms that sludge build up in radiators on a normal domestic heating system can reduce their overall effectiveness by as much as 15%. In addition, it says that proper cleansing of a system using a chemical additive to 'break-up' sludge deposits

combined with a power-flush of the system will result in greater uniformity of radiator temperature and result in a reduced risk of system hydraulic imbalance. This, in turn, could restore overall boiler energy efficiency losses by up to 2%.

The brief for the research was to gain a greater understanding of the problems that inadequate cleaning and treatment of systems may cause, to quantify the loss in energy efficiency that may arise as a result and to quantify the consequential gain that can be expected from - and which is directly attributable to - correct cleaning and inhibiting of systems utilising the company's product range.

It is important to stress that the research relates to the use of Sentinel products – not chemical water treatment products per se – as other products in the marketplace are recognised as being of inferior quality.

The research project was based around a purpose-built replica of a simple domestic installation, comprising a 11kW condensing boiler and five radiators at two levels. The radiators were all extended surface, single panel units and fitted with two lockshield valves. The hydraulic load of the system

was accurately balanced.

The original concept of the research programme was simply to start with a clean system and determine its thermal efficiency, and then progressively foul the system by the addition of sludge taken from existing central heating systems. The effect of this on thermal efficiency was then monitored. A new boiler was then subsequently fitted, and the new efficiency level measured. This corresponded to retrofitting a new boiler without power flushing the system. The system was then power flushed and again the performance with the new boiler was measured. Finally, Sentinel X100 corrosion inhibitor was added and a long-term study of the performance of the system undertaken.

We now have indisputable proof that using the correct chemical water treatment products, in conjunction with a quality power flush system such as our Sentinel Jetflush 4 unit or the recently launched Jetflush Junior, has a significant and measurable effect on energy efficiency in domestic heating and hot water systems. Using quality products will return an important extra efficiency boost to a system and added protection to a shiny new boiler.



Martyn Bridges, director of marketing and technical support at Worcester, Bosch Group, takes this opportunity to look at the Government's Code for Sustainable Homes...

Code for Sustainable Homes

More than a quarter of the UK's carbon dioxide emissions come from the energy used to heat, light and run a home, so the Government has introduced an initiative to ensure homes are being built in a way that minimises energy use and reduces emissions.

What is the Code for Sustainable Homes?

Introduced to drive sustainable homebuilding practice, the Code is intended as a single national standard to guide the industry on the design and construction of sustainable homes.

Whilst initial compliance was voluntary for private house builders and self-developers, the Government has now confirmed that the Code will be mandatory from 1 May 2008, meaning that all new-home buyers will be given clear information about the sustainability of the property.

What is the code's intention?

- To encourage the design and construction of more eco-friendly houses and housing estates.
- Empower homebuyers to drive demand for more sustainable homes.
- Signal the direction of future regulations and provide greater certainty for the industry.

What are the key features?

The code measures the sustainability of a home against certain categories, rating the 'whole home' as a complete package. The nine categories of sustainability included within the Code are:

- energy/CO₂
- pollution
- water
- health and well-being
- materials
- management
- surface water run-off
- ecology
- waste

The Code uses a 'star' rating system to communicate the overall sustainability performance of a home. A home can achieve a rating from one to six and the rating represents its overall performance across all nine categories.

Closely linked to the 2006 Building Regulations, the minimum standards for compliance with the Code have been set above the requirements of Building Regulations. Minimum standards exist for a number of categories and these must be achieved in order to gain one star. Recognising their importance to the sustainability of a home, energy and water efficiency have a minimum standard that must be achieved at every level.

How will the Code be assessed?

The Government's Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) will carry out the assessments, using a network of specifically trained and

accredited independent assessors. Code assessors will conduct initial design stage assessments, recommend a sustainability rating, and issue an interim Code certificate. They will also perform a post-completion check to verify the rating before a final Code certificate of compliance is issued.

How can Worcester's products help you comply with the code?

At Worcester, we anticipated this focus on renewable products and were one step ahead of the game in manufacturing solar panels and ground source heat pumps – all the products you will need to help comply with the Code.

It appears the Code for Sustainable Homes is simply a preview of Building Regulations to come, as the Government has indicated that by 2010 all new-build homes will need to comply with Code level three, increasing to a Code level four by 2013.

So, I guess it's a case of just watch this space! Worcester will of course keep you up-to-date with all the latest regulations and will be on-hand to offer advice, guidance and the products you need to comply with these regulations.



Welcome to our regular 'green' page designed to take a look at environmental issues affecting the UK today, as well as following the progress of Worcester's Environment 2010 Awards across the year.



Richard Bate and Andy Moore

This month we talked to Evesham based installers, Richard Bate and Andy Moore of Evesham Mechanical Services Limited, who were rewarded for installing an energy efficient system to heat the indoor swimming pool of a Cotswold Manor House.

Richard, managing director of Evesham Mechanical and Andy, the service manager, won June's Environment 2010 award for their installation which incorporates 10 Greenskies FK-1S series solar panels.

Andy explains: "The customer contacted us due to his ever increasing fuel bills. He was using £1200 of oil every month and wanted a system that would reduce the cost of running the swimming pool and also energy consumption. We were asked to come up with a solution.

"Being Worcester accredited installers (for boilers, solar and ground source heat pumps), we are always first to recommend the products we have trained with and trust. On this occasion, our local Worcester technical sales manager Dave Stimson worked

with us to advise on the best products and most suitable installation for the project.

"Supported by a Greenstar Danesmoor 50/70 boiler the solar system has been interconnected through a plate heat exchanger. Overall the process went very smoothly. The only problem we faced was trying to hide all the pipes – as requested by the customer – which meant we had to install everything externally. The inside had an exposed ceiling with wooden boards, so trying to get the pipes from the panels on one side of the room to the plant room on the other side proved very challenging.

"That said, we have ended up with a very happy customer. They have noticed significant savings, especially through the summer months when

they hardly noticed the oil boiler firing up. Even on duller days the panels still produce enough heat to work alone.

"Since the installation we've had three additional enquiries for swimming pool installations and ground source heat pumps, which we're in the process of preparing now.

The award-winning work has won Richard and his team a £500 voucher for a National Trust cottage holiday and a year's family membership to the National Trust.

For more information about Worcester's Environment 2010 awards, please see enclosed brochure, call 01905 752709 or download an entry form from the website: www.worcester-bosch.co.uk

Make **Worcester** the choice for your own home...



At Worcester we know there is no better endorsement for our products than from the professionals – the people that know the industry inside out – which is why we've extended our 'Installer Cash-Back' promotion.

When you install a Worcester product (before 30 June 2008) in your own home you'll not only benefit from savings on your energy bills, but you'll receive a generous cash-back too*. Simply install your chosen Worcester products then complete and return the form from our website at www.worcester-bosch.co.uk/cashforinstallers

Claim £250 cash-back when you install any of these A rated Worcester Greenstar gas-fired or oil-fired condensing boilers in your own home

Greenstar gas-fired boilers

- Greenstar Ri gas-fired condensing regular boilers
- Greenstar i Junior gas-fired condensing combi boilers
- Greenstar i System gas-fired condensing system boilers
- Greenstar Si gas-fired condensing combi boilers
- Greenstar CDi gas-fired condensing combi boilers
- Greenstar CDi Conventional gas-fired condensing regular boilers
- Greenstar 30CDi System gas-fired condensing system boiler
- Greenstar Highflow 440 gas-fired condensing combi boiler

Greenstar oil-fired boilers

- Greenstar Danesmoor 18/25 oil-fired regular boiler
- Greenstar Camray kitchen oil-fired condensing regular boilers
- Greenstar Camray utility oil-fired condensing system boilers
- Greenstar Heatslave oil-fired condensing combi boilers
- Greenstar Utility oil-fired condensing regular boilers
- Greenstar Heatslave External oil-fired condensing combi boilers
- Greenstar Camray External oil-fired regular boilers

Claim £500 cash-back when you install a Worcester Greenskies solar water heating system, plus £50 for a Greenskies cylinder and £1,700 cash-back on Greenstore ground source heat pump, in your own home

Greenskies solar system

- FK-1S
- FK-1W
- FK-1S
- FK-1W

Greenskies Cylinders

- 180
- 210
- 250
- 300

Greenstore ground source heat pumps

- 6kW Combination
- 7kW Combination
- 9kW Combination
- 11kW Combination
- 6kW System
- 7kW System
- 9kW System
- 11kW System

To find out more visit www.worcester-bosch.co.uk/cashforinstallers or speak to your local representative.

*Terms and conditions apply.

INSTALLER'S CHOICE

Spotlight

Gary Smith, SG Plumbing & Heating

Inspired by his children's latest school project, Gary Smith, owner of SG Plumbing and Heating Ltd in Kent, decided to install Worcester's Greenskies Solar Panels into his four-bedroom property and replace the existing cylinder with a twin coil solar hot water cylinder.

Gary explains: "My children were definitely the motivation behind my decision to fit the solar panels. At school they are always working on projects, which look at ways to save the environment, save the planet and cut down on carbon emissions, so I decided that it was about time I did my bit.

"I researched the market and Worcester's Greenskies solar panels were the best products I could find. In fact, my children have since monitored the installation for a school project to show their class how effective a solar system is at reducing carbon emissions. We've had a number of their school friends around to the house and even a couple of the teachers have shown an interest.

"The installation was simple and a very successful job. After making sure everywhere was safely scaffolded, the solar panels were fitted to the roof and we connected the pipework down into the utility room, where we replaced the hot water cylinder with a twin coil solar hot water cylinder. It was also in the utility room that I fitted the pump station and the controls.



"I believe it's easier to talk to customers if I've got the product fitted in my own house. I can see it working everyday, monitor its effectiveness and give honest first-hand experience. Overall, I'm really pleased with the results as we've seen our gas bills come down quite dramatically, which is fantastic. During the summer months, approximately 90% of our hot water is solely provided by the solar system and even in the spring and winter, on cloudy days, we still get some heated water even if it just tops up the tank.

"I think renewable products are definitely the way forward. With prices going through the roof, combined with the fact that everybody is thinking about saving the planet, reducing carbon footprint and the earth's reliance on fossil fuels, renewables is obviously going to be the way to go. A number of my customers have called me thinking there's a problem with their boiler because their gas bill has increased, but more often than not, it's absolutely nothing to do with the boiler, it's just that the price of gas is so high these days!"





This month, Martyn Bridges, director of marketing and technical support at Worcester, Bosch Group, discusses some typical oil-fired system issues.

Servicing Domestic Boilers

We know how important it is for homeowners to have their boilers serviced on a regular basis by a qualified installer. Here are some of the most common problems you may discover when servicing domestic oil-fired boilers.

Pressure Jet Boilers

Pressure jet boilers are the most common style of domestic boiler and require regular servicing to check fuel pump wear, to remove deposits around the burner's nozzle and get rid of softer deposits around the heat exchangers.

Burner and heat exchanger deposits increase emissions and can significantly decrease thermal efficiency by as much as 10% between services. Lower thermal efficiency means higher CO₂ emissions and fuel consumption. Most pressure jet boilers operate well when regularly serviced, usually on a yearly basis.

Vaporising Burners

Vaporising burners are not only very sensitive to set-up but also to fuel quality and environmental conditions. Even the most experienced installer faces the challenge of keeping the occasional vaporising boiler running trouble free. The boiler's design puts the heating of the oil under high thermal stress. As the fuel flows from the hot oil feed pipe and gets vaporised in the burner base, tiny amounts of deposit can form and harder deposits can form in the oil feed pipe and burner base.

However, the critical issue is the rate of deposit formation. If formation



occurs too fast between the times when the boiler is serviced, the harder deposits can build up, preventing effective vaporisation, combustion and can block the oil feed pipe. High deposit formation can also be caused by poor oil quality, but also by other factors such as burner base level, insufficient flue draw, blocked fuel filters, faulty temperature controllers, wrong oil feed pipe size/metal and shells/vaporising lid sealing.

It's worth noting that servicing a vaporising boiler every six months is likely to reduce the number of formation problems as detailed above.

Steel Storage tanks

When fuel is stored for long periods of time, rust deposits can form, sink to the bottom of the fuel and

stick together to form a sludge-like substance. Smaller deposits can also build up on the burner's nozzle and the amount of sludge can increase over time until eventually it starts to block the filters.

Over time, condensation, produced from the air coming in and out of the tank vent, can form and accumulate at the bottom of a homeowner's storage tank. This water may corrode the metal tank and occasionally will allow bugs to grow between the water and fuel layers (the bug's fuel is their 'food' and the water sustains 'life') creating slime in pipes and filters.

For more information on Worcester's training facilities, contact 01905 752526 or visit www.worcester-bosch.co.uk



HIPs – Is the Government doing enough?

Neil Schofield, head of sustainable development for Worcester, Bosch Group, comments on the topic of Home Information Packs:

"For manufacturers like Worcester, Energy Performance Certificates are the most important part of the Government's Home Improvement Packs (HIPs). Energy Performance Certificates (EPC's) indicate how energy-efficient a property is on a scale of A-G, with the most efficient homes – which should have the lowest fuel bills – in band A.

"Since their introduction at the end of 2007, EPC's have come under a lot of criticism but I think this condemnation is unfair – for consumers looking at purchasing an existing property, they are a great tool. If you think about it there is minimal guidelines for existing properties, as regulation generally looks at improving the efficiency of new-build properties. So, EPC's are the

perfect vehicle to make improvements to existing homes.

"While latest figures suggest that approximately 20,000 Energy Performance Certificate tests are carried out every week; I don't believe the Government is doing enough. They should be using this regulation as a tool to encourage people to significantly improve their property. But the opportunities and guidelines set by the Government should offer homeowners more practical, clear advice with examples of how to improve a property's energy-efficiency rating. But, as well as being practical, this advice should be both realistic and achievable, for example giving consumers recommendations on how they can

best achieve lower band ratings by installing products such as condensing boilers and solar panels etc.

"In addition, while the initial figures are extremely promising, the Government should be looking at incentives to offer people to take up the improvements – perhaps the motivation of reducing a property's council tax band or lowering stamp duty fees would encourage more homeowners to take the plunge?

"Overall, I think EPC's are a perfect opportunity to embrace the task of reducing CO₂ emissions and fuel bills, but I'd just like to see the Government doing more with them to encourage homeowners to get on board."

MEET ANDY YEOMANS

Regional Sales Manager, Northern England

Q. Tell us a bit about yourself. How did you get into the industry and how long have you been at Worcester?

A: By accident really, I started in the builder's merchant industry in 1975 and progressed into the heating industry in 1981. I worked for various merchant groups including Rettic Heating, where I was area sales manager for six years. I joined Worcester at the beginning of January 2006 as a technical sales manager for oil. I was promoted to regional sales manager for Northern region three in November 2007.

Q. What role do you play in the sales team and how can installers benefit from contacting you and your team?

A: As RSM I supervise a team of four technical sales managers, which will soon include a specification manager as well.

Installers can call us for technical and professional expertise. We're always willing to help with any problems that might arise. Just give one of us a call and we'll do our best to sort it out.

Q. If you were stranded on a desert island what three things would you miss the most?

A: Without a doubt - my wife and children, real ale and curry!

Q. What is the strangest question you've been asked by an installer?

A: "Can I have a plug in programmer on an external Heatslave oil boiler?"

Q. What products are making the biggest impact on consumers at the moment and how do you think they will react to air source heat pumps?

A: Renewable products are making a massive impact at the moment – especially solar systems. The environment is something that consumers are more conscious of and want to do something about and products like ground source heat pumps and solar panels give them the opportunity to do their bit. Everyone is excited about the launch of our air source heat pumps. They are really going to open up the market for heat pumps 100%. There's unbelievable potential and the sales team is looking forward to the launch.

Turn to page 19 for Andy's contact details and the rest of the Northern team.



COMPETITION

Win with Worcester

We're giving you not one, not two, but THREE chances to win one of the latest Bosch Professional Power Tools, by answering the three simple questions on the form below.

First prize: Compact, cordless but plenty of oomph!

First prize is the new lithium-ion battery powered cordless GBH 36-VLi Compact Professional hammer drill.



It weighs no more than 2.9 kg and is A4 in size in terms of length and breadth, making it perfect for overhead drilling and working in tight spaces. Built with a brushless motor it is low maintenance and with each of the two 1.3 Ah battery packs supplied you can drill 100 holes (6 X 40mm) into concrete with only one charge!

Second prize: Do you measure up?

The Bosch DLE 50 Professional laser range finder measures lengths, areas and volumes at the push of a button, displaying the results clearly on a LCD screen in either metric or imperial. It handles measurements up to 50 metres.



Third prize: Small but perfectly formed

The Bosch GSR 10.8 VLi Professional cordless screwdriver is fully equipped for screw driving and drilling applications. It has a locking magnetic 1/4" bit holder and it has the power to drill up to 10mm diameter in wood and 6mm in steel. It's half the size of conventional cordless screwdrivers weighing in at only 0.8 kg.



Just answer the three simple questions below and return the form to our editorial office: *The Installer's Choice* competition, WPR, 43 Calthorpe Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 1TS.

Q1: How much does the GBH 36 VLi cordless hammer drill weigh?

Q2: What's so special about its motor?

Q3: How many 6 x 40 mm holes can it drill in concrete on one battery charge?

Name _____

Business Address: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Tick box as appropriate:
 I would like to receive further information from Worcester, Bosch Group.
 Please do not contact me with further information.

Terms and Conditions
 1. No cash alternative
 2. The decision of Worcester, Bosch Group is final
 3. One winner will be notified by the 19th June 2008

March's winner

A big congratulations to Graham Milward from London for winning March's crossword competition. Look out in next month's issue for April's winner – it could be you!

CONTACTS

Keep in touch

No matter where you are based around the country, Worcester has a team of local representatives available to help with your specific requirements.

We spoke to Andy Yeomans in this month's 'Behind the Scenes' – here's how you can contact Andy and his team in the North of England.



Andy Yeomans
 Regional Sales Manager
 Contact Andy on 07790 489971
 Areas: DE, DN, HD, HU, LN, NG, PE (10,11, 20-25), S, YO



Kevin Nicholson
 TSM Oil Products
 Contact Kevin on 07790 489682
 Areas: DE, DN, HD, HU, LN, NG, PE (10,11,20-25), S, SK, YO



Terry Morgan
 TSM Gas Products
 Contact Terry on 07790 489979
 Areas: DN, HU, YO

We are currently recruiting a technical specification manager for this area.

We will publish details on our website soon.



Chris Easton
 TSM Gas Products
 Contact Chris on 07790 488474
 Areas: HD, S



Steve Banton
 TSM Gas Products
 Contact Steve on 07767 432579
 Areas: DE, LN, NG, PE (10,11, 20-25)