# clearskiesmark.org

# The objective and independent emissions and energy performance certification mark for solid fuel stoves and fireplaces.

# What is clearSkies?

clearSkies is an objective and independent emissions and energy performance certification scheme for stoves and fireplaces.

Initiated by the industry through the Stove Industry Alliance (SIA), clearSkies is designed to drive the development and installation of cleaner and more efficient appliances and is open to all manufacturers of solid fuel stoves and fireplaces.

clearSkies certification provides an easily recognised and independent verification of appliance performance for both emissions and efficiency, helping consumers make an informed purchase decision.

# Efficiency & emissions criteria

clearSkies certified appliances meet, and in many cases go beyond, the minimum performance level for Ecodesign Regulations – the minimum legal requirement for an appliance manufactured for sale in the UK from 1st January 2022.

Ecodesign Regulations cover specific minimum criteria that an appliance must achieve under set test conditions, which are independently verified. These criteria are the minimum energy efficiency of the appliance and the maximum levels of emissions permitted of:

- CO Carbon Dioxide
- PM Particulate Matter
- OGC Organic Gaseous Compounds
- NOx Nitrogen Oxide

The new Ecodesign Regulations represent a significant tightening of these criteria over the current CE requirements.

# clearSkies Levels explained

A clearSkies label on a wood burning appliance means the emission and efficiency performance data in respect of Ecodesign compliance and CE marking has been verified.

The clearSkies Levels show how far beyond Ecodesign criteria an appliance goes in terms of further reduced emissions and increased efficiency. This is set out in the different levels of clearSkies certification which are:



clearSkies also covers mineral fuel appliances. You can read more about mineral fuel <u>here</u>. Mineral fuel appliances certified under clearSkies will receive the following mark:



\*Only applies to appliances manufactured by SIA Members.

# www.clearskiesmark.org



# The clearSkies product listing

All appliances certified under clearSkies will appear in the product listing on the clearSkies website. This can be found at:

www.clearskiesmark.org/product-search/



Each individual appliance is displayed with (and can be searched for by) the brand and model name and heat output. In addition, the fuel type, clearSkies certification level and the UK countries in which the appliance is listed as Defra Exempt are also shown.

#### Government welcomes clearSkies

The clearSkies scheme has been welcomed by various government departments and industry organisations across the UK & the following comments have been received:

"Scotland's journey to better air quality is one that we must all take together and take responsibility for. I welcome schemes, such as the new clearSkies label, which support consumers in making informed choices about lower emission options."

Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change & Land Reform. "We welcome this launch of the clearSkies scheme, initiated by the Stove Industry Alliance. It is right that consumers are able to make informed choices about how to reduce emissions. We also support industry as it works to bring cleaner and more efficient technologies into our homes."

Spokesperson for Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

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"The Federation of British Chimney Sweeps welcomes the launch of clearSkies, which should help consumers easily identify those appliances with the lowest emissions and best efficiency. These appliances will be beneficial for the environment and also cost less to run, your local Association and FBCS chimney sweep can advise."

Phil Cleaver, Director, Federation of British Chimney Sweeps



# Stringent testing & control

In order to attain the clearSkies mark a manufacturer needs to demonstrate that its product meets or exceeds the requirements for four different maximum emission limit tests and an efficiency test.

In addition, manufacturers also need to confirm that they have a process in place for ensuring manufacturing control over their certified appliances to ensure consistency of production. This is a requirement of the Ecodesign Directive 2009/125 and gives further assurance that a clearSkies certified fireplace or stove is manufactured to the highest standards.

Manufacturers have also self-certified full Ecodesign & CE mark compliance to the clearSkies administrator, Kiwa.

#### **Environmentally friendly**

clearSkies certified stoves and fireplaces have low emissions and high efficiency, making them a low carbon and environmentally friendly home heating solution.

clearSkies certified stoves and fireplaces are cost effective to run because they use significantly less fuel than older stove models and open fires to produce the same amount of heat.

#### Number of logs required to produce 4kWh of heat over a 5 hour period



By encouraging the installation of clearSkies certified appliances, either through new installations and especially as a replacement for an open fire or older stove, the industry can play a key role in helping to lower emissions and dramatically improve air quality.

#### Promoting the right fuel

clearSkies certified woodburning stoves and fireplaces are precision engineered to use the right fuel.

The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020, which have been laid down in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords and will see traditional house coal and wet wood for domestic combustion phased out, will come into force on 1st May 2021.

As well as putting the spotlight on appliance improvement, it is a key objective of clearSkies to make clear to consumers the importance of using wood fuel with a moisture content below 20% to ensure optimum stove operation, such as wood certified under the Woodsure Ready to Burn scheme.



#### clearSkies' legal structure

The clearSkies Scheme is owned by clearSkies Mark Limited. Its Board is made up of industry professionals, including representatives of the SIA, and consultants and academics specialising in air quality and bioenergy.

Kiwa Ltd has been appointed by clearSkies Mark Limited as the independent administrator of the scheme.



You can find out more about the legal structure of clearSkies and its board members <u>here</u>.

