

To all fireplace & stove industry professionals,

clearSkies Mark Limited is delighted to announce the launch of clearSkies, **a new objective and independent emissions and energy performance certification mark for solid fuel stoves and fireplaces.**

All appliances certified under the new clearSkies label meet or exceed the efficiency and emissions requirements for forthcoming Ecodesign 2022 regulations, and all Level 3 or above clearSkies certified appliances are also Defra Exempt for use in smoke control zones.

This makes the clearSkies label the only single comprehensive label covering everything the consumer needs to know about a stove or fireplace in terms of Ecodesign compliance and the ability to be able to use the appliance in smoke control zones. The label also makes it easier for consumers to distinguish lower emission, higher efficiency appliances by having differing levels of certification from level 2 to level 5. The higher the level, the better the appliance performs in terms of lower emissions and higher efficiency.

This brand-new scheme has been designed to also clearly demonstrate appliance manufacturers' commitment to improving air quality by developing low carbon, low emissions and high efficiency domestic heating solutions.

Initiated by the industry through the Stove Industry Alliance, clearSkies is designed to drive the development and installation of cleaner and more efficient appliances. It is clearSkies' mission to improve air quality by encouraging the installation of wood burning stoves and fireplaces which go beyond the minimum requirements set out in regulations, and to help homeowners clearly identify those appliances that meet these exacting standards.

Chair of clearSkies, Morley Sage, commented: "We are delighted to be launching the clearSkies scheme today to the fireplace and stove trade, the first step in a phased roll-out of the scheme. clearSkies has been over three years in development and is the first objective and independent emissions and energy performance certification scheme of its kind."

"This ground-breaking initiative is clear evidence of the commitment of the stove and fireplace industry to ensure that its appliances are as clean and efficient as possible. This will mean lower emissions and improved air quality, whilst providing low carbon and heart-warming heating solutions that families can be proud of."

The scheme has been welcomed by a number of UK government departments with supportive statements from the Scottish Government and Defra. Welsh Government is expected to issue a statement later this week.

clearSkies is being launched to the Stove and Fireplace industry today (Monday 17th August 2020) to ensure that the industry is familiar with the label and its details prior to the main clearSkies launch on Tuesday 8th September to the press, media and public.

A clearSkies appliance will help to improve air quality by dramatically reducing emissions. Independent tests show that a clearSkies appliance produces up to 90% less emissions than an open fire and up to 80% than a stove that is 10 or more years old.



Alongside these significant reductions in emissions, owners of a clearSkies certified appliance can also look forward to lower running costs thanks to improved efficiency. clearSkies stoves and fireplaces have precision engineered fireboxes that are designed to use quality dry wood fuel and need significantly less logs than older stoves and open fires.

Further information on the scheme can be found in the attached factsheet and on the clearSkies website. A full product listing of clearSkies' certified appliances can also be found on the website at www.clearskiesmark.org

If you would like any further information or have any questions on the clearSkies scheme please email info@clearskiesmark.org with your query and your contact details and we will be in touch as promptly as possible.