

QUIDOS QUARTERLY



Dec, 2022 | Issue: 02 |



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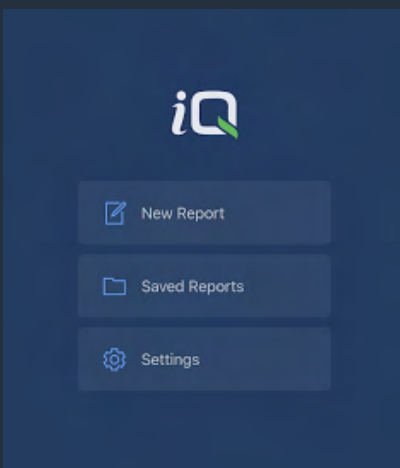
Quidos
Excellence in Efficiency

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iQ Mobile now includes zPlan Floor Plan Software

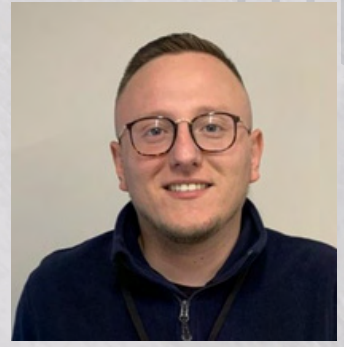
You can now draw your floor plans within iQ-Mobile at no extra cost. With the simple tap of a button, EPC information is automatically populated, saving you time. All for FREE.

Are you on the correct lodgement package?

The more lodgements you do, the cheaper they become. Contact our friendly accreditation team today to check you are on the correct package.

FOREWORD

Every year we write about how exciting our industry has been. We state how our industry is becoming more prominent; how Energy Assessors, energy assessments, and their roles are going to be crucial to improving the energy efficiency of the housing stock; how the Government and consumers are listening and understanding more. Often these statements come from the desire for those individuals outside of the industry to listen, but 2022 is different. I truly feel we will look back on 2022 as the year things changed.



We made great progress, we saw the green homes grant come and go, the extension to ECO4 and the continued growth of PAS2035, the introduction of SAP10, and the new version of iSBEM to meet new building regulations. Yet, somehow, we were still not on top of the agenda. Then, much to everybody's dismay, we saw the start of a dreadful war in Ukraine, massive inflation, and never before seen energy price rises hit us all.

It's a pity that it took these awful situations to push energy efficiency to the top of the agenda, but that's where we are now and each and every one of you should be proud of the work you have done to lay the foundations of what is going to be a rollercoaster decade for the energy performance of buildings. Our industry and the work we do is no longer on the peripherals of mainstream media. We are front page - so join us on this ride which will help to end fuel poverty, improve our homes, save the public money and help us meet net-zero carbon aims too.

- Quidos has also seen growth. We increased our staff members whilst delving into additional business areas. High street lenders have finally woken up to energy efficiency and this has seen us work with some top lenders on numerous projects including a 10-house retrofit project and joining them at numerous trade shows giving energy efficiency advice to their customers.

2022 saw us merge with our sister company Argyle Software, enabling 2023 and beyond to see big increases in the development of our software. It saw us integrate into zPlan Ltd's floor plan software and the fantastic release of a mobile app like nothing out there. 2023 will be a big year that will see further integration with other software, the release of a new Quidos retrofit software, and big upgrades to iQ-Energy. We believe that cooperation and communication are key to innovation and will continue to seek other partners to work with throughout 2023.

We will always be your friendly, professional, and supportive alternative in energy assessor accreditation. To all our members, partners, and industry stakeholders, Quidos wishes you a very merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous new year. We look forward to working with you.

Billy Say, Technical Director

INDUSTRY NEWS

ECO Plus

This year saw the announcement of the ECO Plus Scheme (ECO+) to be introduced in Spring 2023.

The new ECO+ scheme provides support to households that aren't benefitting from any current government support to upgrade their homes, this will mean that thousands of homes will be receiving new home insulation, providing them with much lower bills which is paramount in the current climate.

Funding available through the ECO+ scheme will be extended to the least energy efficient homes, those with an EPC rating of D or below, as well as homes that are in the lower Council Tax bands and those that are in a vulnerable position.

This scheme will have a substantial effect on household energy bills due to the reducing levels of energy use within them, we hope this will be a positive turning point in the support the government is providing to struggling households.

[To read more information on the scheme click here](#)



ECO Plus Consultation

The ECO+ Consultation is a great opportunity for you, as essential members in improving energy efficiency, to have your view on the proposals for the ECO+ Scheme heard.

Please join in with the conversation if you can.

This Consultation closes at 11:45pm on 23rd December 2022, don't miss the opportunity.

Quidos will be responding to the Consultation representing our assessors.

[Click here for more information](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Increase in Retrofit demand

The current cost-of-living crisis has impacted everyone in many ways, one of those ways being an increase in energy bills, therefore increasing the need for people to make their homes more energy efficient.

Due to this, there has been a significant rise in demand for Retrofit tradespeople to carry out work on homes.

You could help meet this demand by becoming accredited in the Retrofit sector now, where there is access to a steady supply of work waiting for you.

[Apply through our website now to start the application process.](#)

- Keep a look out for the Retrofit Campaign we have collaborated with TrustMark on for more information.



TRUSTMARK
Government Endorsed Quality

Quidos
Excellence in Efficiency

[Access retrofit opportunities](#)



Want access to a **steady supply of work** in a rapidly expanding market?

Due to increasing energy bills, there is a demand for tradespeople carrying out energy-efficiency works

There are **24 million** UK homes that need retrofitting

There is an estimated **£300bn** that you can tap into

[www.quidos.co.uk](#)

EEA CONFERENCE, PEPA CONFERENCE & ENERGY EFFICIENCY AWARDS

Energy Efficiency Association Conference

Quidos were delighted to attend the ECO4 & Sustainable Warmth event hosted by the Energy Efficiency Association in Bolton. The Energy Efficiency Association host the National Energy Efficiency awards and are an organisation who bring together the best, and the brightest in the industry, for networking, education and software demonstrations.

- The event was fantastic and showed off
- some of the fantastic people and
- companies within the industry, who all
- have something to offer. These events
- are going to be a regular thing in 2023
- in as many regions in the UK as possible. We look forward to hopefully seeing some of you there. P.S. They count towards your CPD.



PEPA Conference 2022

It was great to see so many of our members at the face to face PEPA Conference 2022 event.

This year was stacked with speakers from across the industry as well as giving assessors the opportunity to speak in person with their Schemes. If anybody has any questions regarding the event please do look and ask, and if not we look forward to seeing you at one of many of the events we have planned for next year!

Energy Efficiency Awards 2022

October saw us spend time in the city of Birmingham. We started with exhibiting at the NEC for Grand Designs Live. As always, our attendance here enabled us to engage with exhibitors and the public, discussing all things surrounding energy efficiency.

This was followed by an invitation to the Energy Efficiency Awards, where we celebrated outstanding achievements in our Industry. We were proud to be acknowledged for our contribution and praised for the work Quidos is achieving. This recognition we could not have reached without our members, so we offer our thanks for all past, present and future endeavours.

HOME IS WHERE THE HEAT IS REPORT

Home is where the heat is report

We are pleased to share and celebrate our continual commitment to the growth and changes, paramount to our future Industry.

Quidos have been involved with the Coalition (alongside Natwest, Worcester Bosch and British Gas) in completing a number of Retrofit pilot projects across the UK. On Wednesday 19th October we saw our Managing Director Philip Salaman participate on the panel answering questions with the Coalition surrounding energy efficiency, net zero targets and the cost-of-living crisis.

The Sustainable Warmth and Buildings Coalition has released the first 'Home is where the Heat is' Report which will give you more insight into what the coalition is aiming to do.

If you have the chance to do so, please read what the report has to say.

[Click here to read the report](#)



"Quidos are proud to be part of a project with several of the industry's major players where we hope to not only push the industry forward to improve energy efficiency in the current crisis, but we hope that the results will also impact future decisions in the industry." - Catherine Garrido, Operations Director

ACCREDITATION & TRAINING

Continued Professional Development

Quidos aims to support the knowledge base and development of our assessors; this includes the completion of Continuous Professional Development (CPD). All assessors have a minimum requirement to complete 10 hours of CPD throughout their year of accreditation.

There is an opportunity for you to join in with a Heat Pump CPD module hosted by Hex Energy in early 2023. Further communications about this event will be released shortly.

[Book your space now](#)

If your accreditation anniversary is approaching (Jan/Feb/March), we are required to check if you have completed the required number of CPD hours.



CPD deadlines 2023:

January 25th

February 24th

March 28th

If you have uploaded CPD prior to your deadline, please do drop the Quidos Accreditation team a line and we will note this.



Not yet completed your CPD?

Check our Online Training Modules

Starting at just £12+VAT we have quick 30 minute to 1 hour courses as well as CPD bundles which include all round master-classes and practical guides to enhance your professional development.

<https://quidos.co.uk/our-courses>

ACCREDITATION & TRAINING

Quidos Community

We are excited to finally share with you our accredited Quidos members area; "Quidos Community".

For a long time now, we have been working on a project fuelled by the importance of networking and how powerful working together and communicating can be.

Quidos will shortly be launching a platform that's tailored for our assessors to communicate openly and honestly with each other. The aim of this is for knowledge to be shared, support to be sought, work opportunities to be openly posted and much more.

The Quidos Community Space is a virtual arena, where we welcome you to partake, observe and gather as much as you wish.



Our aim as a company is to always push the industry forwards in improving energy efficiency and people's knowledge about the sector we work in, we believe this is positive way in doing so.

Further communication will follow in the New Year, so please keep an eye out. In the meantime, we will be working hard uploading the business opportunities we have been gathering, CPD support, top tips and a lot more.

As always, we welcome any feedback, questions, and ideas, so please do not hesitate to contact us either via email or telephone.



ACCREDITATION & TRAINING

Licence Plus

We are excited to announce that in the New Year Quidos will be getting involved with the Licence Plus Scheme within TrustMark.

The Licence Plus Scheme means that as a TrustMark Scheme provider, we are able to get gain support and get involved in taking on a holistic approach to retrofitting a home by adopting a fabric-first, whole house retrofit.

- This Scheme allows us a company to further support the aim of the UK's Net Zero targets as well as aiding homes to reduce their household energy bills.

Licence Plus works alongside PAS 2035 standards and creates further recognition of competent trade bodies which will increase our scheme development.

If you would like to know further information about the Licence Plus Scheme then have a look on [TrustMark's website](#).

If you would like to understand more about how we are getting involved then please get in touch with us and we will do our best to answer any queries.



QUIDOS TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Quidos pride ourselves in the support we give our members. It improves the knowledge of the assessor and in turn improves the quality of EPCs across the industry. Each edition of Quidos Quarterly will play host to a whole host of technical support tips, hints and reminders to keep our members on their toes. This edition we have the following:

Non-Domestic EPCs

It's been a busy year for Non-Domestic EPCs. From the entry of the cursed "Building Foundation Area" making us wonder why our reports were getting negative values to the carbon changes shifting to the benefit of electric HVAC systems, there have been many changes to take account of.

- However, we have persevered and tried to always keep a sturdy line of communication to you the assessor. We produced our 'changes to iSBEM from 5.6 to 6.1' document to clear up most of the confusion on the newest iSBEM.

Now moving forward, we also have a new set of Conventions to look forward to. These Convention changes help explain some existing Conventions better and also outline outright changes to the interpretation of others.

These changes vary from 7.01s "Lighting Options in SBEM" which adds further detail on LOR value and removal of some previous misunderstanding to simple

changes like 6.04s "LTHW Boiler Efficiencies" which simply removes a level in the hierarchy sequence of finding out suitable values for the 'Effective Heat Generating Seasonal Efficiency' for boilers.

[Here is a document with full guidance](#)

We cover these changes in more in depth in our non-domestic CPD which we will be releasing to assessors very shortly.

DID YOU KNOW?

Quidos' software is available on iOS and Android. Linking to floor plan software through zPlan, you can draw a plan and it self populate your EPC data inputs, create an EPC and lodge within minutes. Try it out today!



QUIDOS TECHNICAL SUPPORT

ECO4 Tech Bulletin

What is ECO4?

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) has allowed installers access to funding for consumers since 2013. Administrated by OFGEM and designed to help households in fuel poverty, ECO has also helped to ensure the housing stock in the UK moves closer to the 2050 net-zero carbon aims. The ECO grant aims to support low-income households in upgrading their homes along with their heating systems. Over 3.1 million home improvements have been made under ECO, but this final phase aims to go even further. Extended until 2026, ECO4 is the latest version/phase of the scheme.

- Phase 1 of ECO4 will run until 31st March 2023 and will be followed by three annual phases which begin on 1st April 2023.

The differences between ECO3 and ECO4

Whilst there are many similarities between ECO3 and ECO4, there are a few differences in this final stage. The ECO3 regulations meant that energy suppliers with more than 150,000 domestic customers were committed to supporting eligible applicants. Currently, this is the same for ECO4, however, the government is looking to implement a method that removes obligation thresholds which will mean that smaller companies are able to participate in the scheme.

The ECO3 scheme excluded coal-fuelled heating systems in order to help achieve net-zero targets, ECO4 will be following this ruling but with the addition of excluding oil (and LPG) fuelled heating systems as well.

ECO4 and Energy Assessments

ECO4 takes on a fabric-first approach which focuses on improving the building itself before any installation of new heating systems, and on replacing old and drained boilers with greener alternatives such as heat pumps and biomass boilers. Any home with an efficiency rating of D or below will have to install loft, roof and exterior-facing cavity wall insulation as part of this. Homeowners are the least restrictive in this scheme, however only properties with an EPC band of D or below can qualify and the measure will have additional requirements. Measures within privately rented properties can only be installed in properties within bands E-G, they can then receive any ECO measure excluding repairs or replacements to broken heating provided at least one mandatory measure is included. The overall EPC eligibility is as follows; band D-G homes for homeowners, band E-G for private and social renters, band D for social housing when an innovation measure is installed.

[For full guidance please click here](#)

TOP TIPS FOR USING LESS ENERGY

Whilst one of the best ways to reduce energy bills will always be to thermally upgrade your home using the recommendations on an EPC, or via a retrofit assessment, we understand that this can cost a lot of money. Therefore, we have produced a low cost list of tips for reducing your energy and water usage.

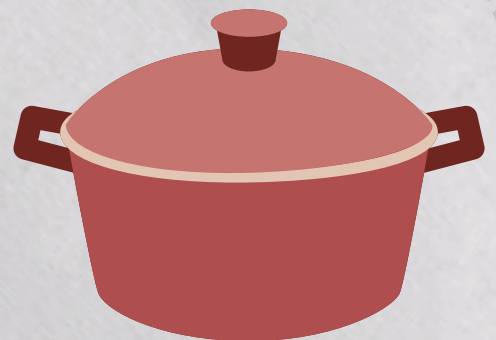
1. Completely fill up the dishwasher - Ensuring that there is no space available in your dishwasher before you start the cycle means you reduce your water use as you won't have to use the dishwasher as frequently.

2. Don't boil the kettle with too much water - Avoid overfilling the kettle as the more water you use, the more energy you use to heat that water. This energy used can then become wasteful if the excess water boiled isn't used for anything.

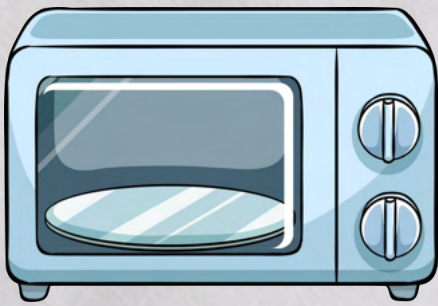
3. Buy a washing up bowl or plug for the sink drain - Investing in a washing up bowl or plug for your sink drain saves water as you won't need to run the tap for water for as long and you won't be wasting any heated water. You can pick up either of these items for as little as £1.

4. Wear layers - Wearing the correct clothes for the weather can mean you avoid increasing the temperature on the room thermostat, therefore saving on the energy being used.

5. Place correct lids on saucepans - When cooking with a saucepan, make sure you use a lid as this will mean the food cooks quicker. You will also need to check that the lid you are using is the correct size for the saucepan as this will mean no heat is escaping to the surrounding environment.



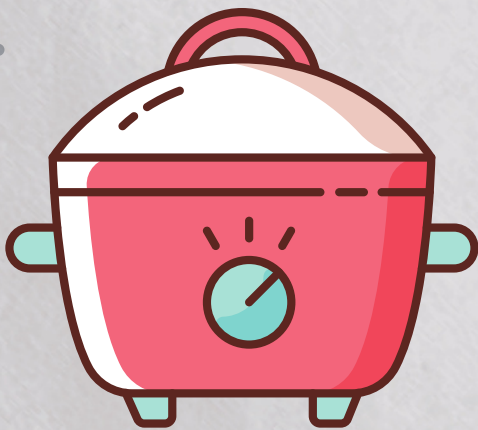
TOP TIPS FOR USING LESS ENERGY



6. Use the microwave instead of the oven where possible - The microwave uses less energy as it only cooks the food rather than the air unlike an oven. As well as this, a microwave reaches higher temperatures so can cook the food quicker, meaning the appliance isn't using as much energy for as long.

7. Avoid opening the oven door when cooking food - As long as you keep the glass on the oven door clean then you can check the food by looking through the glass rather than opening the oven door. This prevents the oven from cooling down due to heat escaping from the oven when the door is open.

8. Use glass or ceramic dishes to cook food in the oven - These types of dishes retain heat better than metal dishes which means you won't have to cook the food for as long, therefore saving energy.



9. Cook a big batch of food, then freeze it, then reheat the food by using microwave when needed - This method could give you the same amount of food you would typically consume but it would use less energy as the oven would be used less.

10. Use slow cookers - A slow cooker uses very little energy and it also means you don't have to use any other appliance that may use more energy when used.

QUIDOS ASSESSOR ZONE - EVENTS

Futurebuild 2023

Tuesday 7th March - Thursday 9th March
2022

7th & 8th (10:00 - 18:00)

9th (10:00 - 16:00)

Halls S3 - 10, ExCel London, Royal Victoria
Dock, 1 Western Gateway, Royal Docks,
London, E16 1XL

Register your interest in attending the event
by clicking here



We have many more exciting events we will be attending throughout 2023 so keep an eye out for event details in future editions of the Quidos Quarterly and our social platforms.

QUIDOS ASSESSOR ZONE - CHRISTMAS CLOSING TIMES



Quidos Office closed

The Quidos Main Office will be closed for the Christmas break for the following dates:

22nd December 2022 - 2nd January 2023

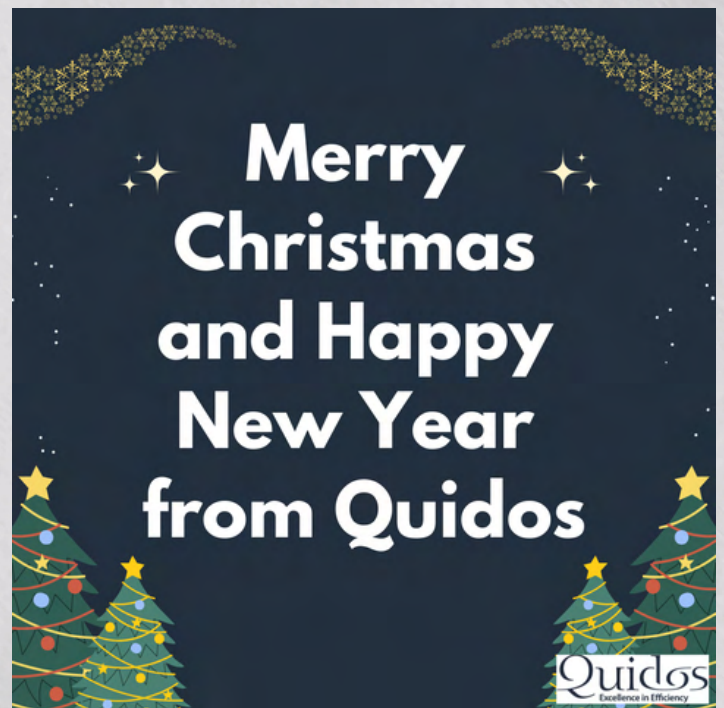
The office will reopen as normal at 9am on the 3rd January 2023

There will be very limited assistance available during this period of time, please only contact us if it's an emergency.

If your query is urgent then submit it to:

Support Log: <http://support.quidos.co.uk>
or
Email: support@quidos.co.uk

P.S. keep a look out for any festive promotions coming your way during this time...



An exciting opportunity - Do you want your success story in the next edition?

The Assessor Zone of the newsletter, will have the sole purpose of recognising Assessor feats both within the industry and externally. If you wish to tell of your achievements in the next edition, please contact qas@quidos.co.uk



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Or contact us using the details below:

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