

OFCERT® - The Oil Firing Industry's Testing and Certification Scheme

OFCERT® is an integral part of OFTEC's mission to promote excellence in oil fired heating and cooking. Specifiers and users of OFCERT® approved oil firing equipment can be sure that it exceeds the latest British and European standards of manufacture in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Equally, because OFCERT® is a dedicated testing and certification scheme for oil firing equipment, it gives added kudos to the high standards of manufacture within the industry.

OFTEC undertakes the administration of the OFCERT® scheme, which includes recording test results, issuing licence numbers and monitoring their use. A copy of the Rules for the operation of the OFCERT® Scheme can be obtained from OFTEC.

Through the OFTEC Main Technical Group, manufacturers have the opportunity to get involved with preparing standards and the operation of the scheme. At the same time, the independence of the testing bodies and OFCERT® Scheme Committee is

To date , OFCERT® covers the equipment noted below:

- Oil fired boilers up to 400kW output, including combination boilers
- Pressure jet nozzles for use with kerosene
- Oil fired cookers up to 45kW output, including conversion units
- Fire Valves
- Oil fired roomheaters
- Gauges for use with oil supply systems
- Used lubricating oil burners
- Filter and water separation
- Oil storage tanks and bunds
- Overfill alarms and overfill prevention devices
- De-aerators
- Fire protection screen walls for use with oil storage tanks

Any OFTEC member can apply for an OFCERT® License for specific products by having them tested at one of the OFTEC nominated independent Test Houses. The equipment also has to be manufactured under a UKAS, ILAB or equivalent IAF Member accredited QA scheme to BS EN ISO 9000 that incorporates the relevant OFTEC Standard.

Non OFTEC Members can also apply for OFCERT® Licences under the same conditions stipulated above. These are available as a annually renewed licence.

Where there are no appropriate British or European Standards available, OFTEC Standards exist. Designed in the format of European Standards they are as close to them in requirements as possible.

Independent Test Houses are appointed to carry out testing to OFCERT® requirements. Each Test House must have UKAS, ILAB or equivalent approved test procedures and assists with the development of OFCERT® Standards.

Manufacturers can apply for OFCERT® approval for their own test facilities as Auxiliary Test Facilities, providing they meet stringent criteria including UKAS, ILAB or equivalent IAF Member approval for their operations. Testing at Auxiliary Test Houses is supervised by an appropriate Mains Test House. Main Test Houses are first class independent or government laboratories. Test Houses currently acting for OFTEC are:

BSRIA (Building Services Research and Information Association)
Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7AH
Tel: 01344 426511
Fax: 01344 487575

GASTEC at CRE Limited
The Orchard Business Centre, Stoke Orchard,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 7RZ
Tel: 01242 677877
Fax: 01242 676506
Email: enquiries@gastecuk.com
Web: www.gastecuk.com

Impact Laboratories Ltd
PO Box 21
Bo'Ness Road, Grangemouth FK3 9HX
Tel: 01324 489182

The OFTEC Equipment Directory is a valuable resource for specifiers and users of oil firing equipment. Published once a year and updated regularly (available via the OFTEC website) it contains comprehensive details of oil firing and associated equipment, it also shows which products have obtained the extra kudos of OFCERT® approval.

OFTEC Standards

OFS A100 - Oil Fired Appliance Standard

Heating boilers with atomising burners, outputs <70kW and max operating pressure of 3 bar.

OFS A101 - Oil Fired Appliance Standard

Oil fired cookers with atomising or vaporising burners with or without boilers, outputs <45kW

OFS A102 - Oil Fired Appliance Standard

Roomheaters with atomising or vaporising burners with or without boilers, outputs <25kW

OFS A103 - Oil Fired Appliance Standard

Used lubricating oil burners for space and water heating appliances, outputs <400kW

OFS T100 - Tank Standard

Polyethylene oil storage tanks for distillate fuels.

OFS T200 - Tank Standard

Steel oil storage tanks and tank bunds for use with distillate fuels, lubrication oils and waste oils.

OFS E100 - Oil Fired Equipment Standard

Oil pressure atomising nozzles for use with kerosene.

OFS E101 - Oil Fired Equipment Standard

Remote acting fire safety valves for use with oil supply systems.

OFS E103 - Oil Fired Equipment Standard

Gauges for use with oil supply tanks.

OFS E104 - Oil Fired Equipment Standard

Oil filters, strainers and water separation devices for use with oil supply systems.

OFS E105 - Oil Fired Equipment Standard

Overfill alarms and overfill prevention devices for use with oil supply tanks.

OFS E106 - Oil Fired Equipment Standard

Flues for use with oil fired boilers with outputs <50kW

OPS 21 - Oil Fired Product Standard

Fire protection screen walls for use with oil storage tanks - Minimum requirements and testing

OPS 23 - Oil Fired Product Standard

De-aerators - Minimum requirements and testing

Copies of OFTEC Standards together with OFCERT® application forms are available from OFTEC.