

It's Official SIA Ecodesign Stoves Reduce Emissions

The publication of the Defra Clean Air Strategy confirms that Ecodesign Stoves will play a central role in the government's plan to reduce emissions from domestic combustion and commends the SIA for releasing the stoves ahead of the 2022 target date.

Recent publicity has tended to equate emissions from wood burning with emissions from wood burning stoves. Government statistics have indicated that nationally 40% of wood is burnt on open fires. This rises to 70% when it comes to London, despite the fact that burning wood on an open fire is not permitted under the current Clean Air Act. The Clean Air Strategy clearly recognises that all wood burning is not the same. SIA Ecodesign Ready stoves are designed using improved burn technology, developed by the stove manufacturers to produce 90% fewer emissions than an open fire and 80% fewer emissions than a stove manufactured 10 years ago. Users of wood burning appliances can make a significant improvement to air quality by installing a SIA Ecodesign Stove compared to older appliances.

Key to the Defra strategy is also educating homeowners to burn only wood with a moisture content below 20% and having their chimney swept on a regular basis by a registered chimney sweep. Following this advice will maximise the environmental benefits of a SIA Ecodesign Ready stove.

Wood burning stoves also have strong green credentials as the CO₂ produced by SIA Ecodesign Ready stoves, when the logs are burnt, is absorbed by growing trees making them carbon neutral. In the government's energy efficiency indicator logs have a significantly lower carbon factor than gas, oil or electricity.

Morley Sage, Chair of the SIA, said: "Owners of an SIA Ecodesign Ready stove can be confident they are reducing their carbon footprint and helping to improve air quality, by using the best emissions and efficiency technology available."

When buying a new stove, the message is clear, choose a SIA Ecodesign Ready stove and use Ready to Burn logs.

ENDS

Editor's Notes:

- The SIA web site www.stoveindustryalliance.com contains more information on the benefits of Ecodesign Ready stoves and the importance of using fuel with a moisture content below 20%
- More information on Ready to Burn is available at www.readytoburn.org

- Ecodesign is the European-wide programme to lower emissions. It is due to come into force for stoves in the UK in 2022. SIA Ecodesign Ready stoves will meet the Ecodesign requirements and are available now.
- The Stove Industry Alliance was formed in 2008 and is a trade association of stove manufacturers, distributors and retailers, wood fuel suppliers, flue and component manufacturers.
- With 40 manufacturing members and just under 50 retail members, the SIA represents the stove industry in discussion with government departments such as DEFRA and BEIS.
- The SIA represents the UK in CEFACD, the European stove association, and also works closely with HETAS and Woodsure.
- The SIA has high-resolution lifestyle images from a range of SIA manufacturing members available on request for publications looking to illustrate home heating, stove and fireplace feature articles. Please contact Erica Malkin, SIA Secretary General on 07891 097942 or erica@stoveindustryalliance.com
- Further information on the work of the SIA can be found at www.stoveindustryalliance.com