



PRESS RELEASE

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Energy Performance of Buildings Assessor Training (EPCs)

Course date: 19th - 20th May 2015

HM Government of Gibraltar is re-doubling its efforts to contribute to the fulfilment of Europe's Kyoto Protocol commitments to combat the threat of climate change. 40% of the EU's carbon dioxide emissions come from buildings and experts estimate that it could meet up to half of its Kyoto commitments through energy efficiency measures alone.

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) is an EU directive aimed at reducing the amount of energy consumed by buildings in an attempt to reduce carbon emissions and was transposed into local legislation by the Environment (Energy Performance of Buildings) Regulations of October 2012. These Regulations contain a section on conservation of fuel and power to reflect minimum energy performance standards.

The Simplified Building Energy Model Gibraltar (SBEM-GI) was developed by the Building Research Establishment, as part of Gibraltar's commitments under the EPBD. This is the official Government approved methodology used to calculate the energy performance of dwellings and non-domestic buildings, as well as to carry out building regulations compliance checks.

The Department of the Environment and Climate Change will once again be offering a training course on the SBEM-GI as an opportunity for new individuals to join the list of Government accredited energy assessors for the production of Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs).

Department of the Environment and Climate Change

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The Building Research Establishment will be delivering a two day course on the use of the SBEM-GI model on the **19th and 20th of May** 2015 at Bleak House from 9am to 5pm. The course is open only to those who have the relevant qualifications, and a minimum of 5 years' experience within the construction industry (architects, engineers, energy consultants, etc).

Further details on course costs and criteria can be obtained from the Department of the Environment and Climate Change at info.environment@gibraltar.gov.gi or Tel no. 20048450. Please note places are limited and applications must be in by no later than the **1st of May**.

Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Dr John Cortes, said: 'I am pleased to offer this course in association with the Building Research Establishment, which will grow the existing list of experienced professionals who are certified to assess buildings using the SBEM-GI and produce Energy Performance Certificates. These energy efficiency measures mean that Gibraltar is fully compliant with its European commitments under the Kyoto Protocol to combat climate change. It is important that we offer ongoing training to industry professionals to ensure that they are properly implemented.'