



MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY

## **PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY**

### **Certification of Photovoltaic systems and Solar Thermal systems Installers**

In line with the requirements stated in Directive 2009/28/EC, as from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 installers of small-scale biomass boilers and stoves, solar photovoltaic and solar thermal systems etc must be certified.

Pursuant to the MRA Board decision taken on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011, the following is the agreed way forward in regards to the Certification requirements for Photovoltaic systems and Solar Thermal systems Installers.

Approved courses are being organised by the University of Malta and Malta College for Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) in specific technologies as required under the Directive. Following the successful<sup>1</sup> completion of a Malta Resources Authority approved course, the candidate would have to apply for Certification of Installers as requested in legislation under the MRA Act. The applicants should have the minimum pre-requisites enlisted in Table 1.

A 'grace period' will be applied to candidates who would be able to provide proven evidence of the required relevant experiences till the date of the coming into force of the new Legislation regulating the Certification of the Renewable Energy Installers, i.e. by end of 2012.

The Certification of Installers will have an expiry date of 5 years. The Certification will be extended following the successful outcome and attendance to refresher courses as required by the Directive. Refresher short courses must be proposed for the Malta Resources Authority's approval within the fourth year from the start of the first courses.

As the administration of the certification may include expenses in monitoring, querying and inspecting installations and addressing customer complaints by the Malta Resources Authority; Certification of Installers may be subject to a fee.

The list of Certified Installers will be made available on the Malta Resources Authority's website. The name, identification number, category of Certification e.g. SWH, PV-1phase, PV-3phase, and expiry date will be published. As the task of the installation of such equipment involves different skill levels, other personnel can be involved in the installation process, as trainees or apprentices, as long as the whole task is to be supervised and eventually commissioned and certified by the Certified Installer.

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<sup>1</sup> "Successful" would mean that the student should have passed both a theoretical exam/assessment and a practical assessment. The pass mark for an exam is 70% and over, and/or that ALL Learning Outcomes have been achieved in case where a time constrained assessment is being performed.

Item	RES system installation type	Minimum Requirements	Present Requirements
1	PV system Single phase	MRA Approved Course + Wireman License/Authorisation A + MQF Level 4 + 2years proven experience in PV installations ( till 2012)	Warranted Electrical Engineer
		MRA Approved Course + Wireman License/Authorisation A + MQF Level 5	
2	PV system Three phase <=/= 300 Amps	MRA Approved Course + Wireman License/Authorisation B + MQF Level 5 ...OR	
		MRA Approved Course + Electrical Engineer Degree	
3	PV system > 300 Amps	MRA Approved Course + Warranted Electrical Engineer + Wireman License/Authorisation B	
4	Solar Water Heaters*	MRA Approved Course + MQF Level 4 ...OR.	
		MRA Approved Course + (MQF Level 3) + proven 3 years proven experience in plumbing (till 2012) ...OR.	
		MRA Approved Course + School Leaving Certificate + proven 2 years proven experience in SWH installations ( till 2012)	

\* *Solar Water Heaters' backup electric heaters should be connected to an approved electricity connection installed by a Wireman License / Authorisation holder.*

The MQF Level<sup>2</sup> defined is related to qualifications and skills in relevant fields of study.

Table 1

2<sup>ND</sup> May 2011  
MRA/PR 7/11

<sup>2</sup> MQF Level – Malta Qualifications Framework as defined by the Malta Qualifications Council in relation to both qualifications and skills. <http://www.mqc.gov.mt/malta-qualifications-framework>