

We were thrilled by the enthusiastic response to the launch of the Association of Gas Safety Managers in September. You can read about it below.

We will also shortly be launching a new VRQ Level 2 Award in Gas Safety Awareness. Having established the Level 4 VRQ for Managers, we have now set up another qualification which is targeted at staff working in the front line of gas safety every day, in such roles as Housing Officers, Gas Administrators and Voids Officers. This qualification will give a broad knowledge of gas safety issues, helping delegates to carry out their role with a better understanding. Please look out for more information on our website or contact us at training@corgitechnical.com

Association of Gas Safety Managers successfully launched at Social Housing 2012

Thirty founding members of the Association of Gas Safety Managers (AGSM) gathered at the Social Housing Conference and Exhibition in Birmingham on 17 September to launch the new professional Association.

Welcoming the new members, Bill Paton, Joint CEO of CORGI Technical Services, explained the reasoning behind setting up



the Association and highlighted some of the key benefits that members will receive.

“The Association has been set up by CORGI in response to a demand from gas managers who are undertaking or

have completed CORGI’s VRQs in Gas Safety Management,” said Bill. “It has been created to address industry issues with key stakeholders, creating one voice from the sector to key government departments. It also provides members with support, networking opportunities, training and many other benefits.”

“The AGSM has a founding membership of over 100 managers responsible for gas safety in their social housing and facilities management organisations. I am delighted to welcome so many of you to the launch event.”

AGSM members will be able to attend events such as the existing Inter-Authority Gas Forums, networking events and the Annual Conference, the first of which will take place on 24 April 2013 at the Belfry in Birmingham.

Claire Heyes, Joint CEO of CORGI commented: “The VRQ, which we set up last year, has proved very popular and of immense value to those who have taken it, helping to raise standards in gas safety. Following the success of the VRQ qualification, we have taken the next step by creating the Association. This will allow managers to be recognized as a professional body, help them to raise standards in their industry and, by continuing to work closely with CORGI Technical Services, ensure their organisations are working to the highest safety standards.”

“On a personal level,” concluded Claire, “the VRQ qualification and membership of the Association will give the members recognition of their achievements and demonstrate their professionalism, as well as give networking and CPD opportunities. We are delighted our initiative has been embraced by our founder members and the industry.”

More information about the AGSM and the Annual Conference will be announced shortly.

www.agsm.uk.com
www.corgitechnical.com

AGSM launch feedback from members

Steven Fisher, Gas Manager at Southway Housing Trust:
"It was a very informative day"

Karen Hughes, Maintenance Administrator at Cymdeithas Tai Eruri
"The launch was good and it was great to share experiences with others who have either completed or in the middle of the course, with a range of people from Managers to Engineers."



First VRQ success in Scotland!

Congratulations to Kenny Brown, Gas Maintenance Contract Manager at Glasgow Housing Association, who has become the first person in Scotland to complete the VRQ in Gas Safety Management in Social Housing. Here he is presented with his certificate by Alex McGuire Executive Director of Development and Regeneration.



Your Feedback is needed!

We very much value your feedback on the VRQ courses, the Gas Forum events, the AGSM and any other aspects of the services we are providing. Please make comments using this email link tellus@corgitechnical.com and we will follow up.



First successful eviction of a tenant for gas safety reasons in Midland Heart secured

The first successful eviction of a tenant for gas safety reasons has been secured by Midland Heart Housing Association.

With a legal requirement to carry out an annual inspection of all gas equipment in every residence for which they are responsible, Midland Heart eventually had to resort to legal action in Handsworth, Birmingham, when one tenant refused access to the property for over two years.

Waseem Butt of Midland Heart commented: "The tenant was an engaging young man, but he would not let us have access to the property. There was no rent arrears and no anti-social issues. We tried every avenue open to us to get access to service the gas equipment, but he would not let us in. He was based in a building with multiple occupants and so by

not servicing his gas equipment he was putting others in the building at risk. This left us no option but to resort to the courts."

On Monday 12 September a judge ordered his eviction and Bailiffs carried out the order on the same day.



New appointment to CORGI

Cary Marshall, AIGEM, has been appointed to CORGI as a Technical Expert.

Cary has worked in the gas industry for over 35 years, starting as an apprentice gas fitter progressing on to become a service technician, technical support officer, field manager, service manager and a project manager. Cary is also an ACS assessor and a Carbon Monoxide incident investigator.



He has supported numerous social housing organisations with their gas safety issues including advising on auditing and training.

Cary now operates as a Gas Safety Expert, with a client base operating throughout the UK and also in Europe and is one of CORGI's qualified Carbon Monoxide Incident Investigators. He also carries out contract management support for Local Authorities, Housing Associations and associated gas contractors to include management of third party auditing, gas management procedures and policies and the delivery of gas safety seminars.

VRQ course start dates

VRQ in Gas Safety Management in Social Housing

London - 10 Oct

Manchester - 16 Oct

Maidstone - 24 Oct

Durham - 6 Nov

Leicester - 14 Nov

Liverpool - 12 Dec

VRQ in Gas Safety Facilities Management

South West - 21 Nov

Midlands - 5 Dec

If you would like more information about our courses contact us at training@corgitechnical.com

CORGI in the News

The launch of the Association of Gas Safety Managers (AGSM) has been covered by several publications:-

Installer - 19/9/12

Be Gas Safe - 18/9/12

H&V News - 4 9/12

Safety & Health Practitioner - 20/9/12

National news stories

Landlord Boards must 'improve risk management' - Inside Housing 18/9/12 [Read further](#)

HSE begins Fee for Intervention - Gov bulletins 28/9/12 [Read Further](#)

Landlords warned over gas guidance" – Inside Housing 5/10/12 [Read Further](#)

Silent Killer – why are gas safety problems still arising in new build homes four years after Elouise Littlewood died from carbon monoxide poisoning?" – Inside Housing 5/10/12 [Read Further](#)

CORGI News

Expect more from CORGI



CORGI Technical Services

Events

Inter-Authority Gas Forums

Glasgow

Wed 27 Feb 2013
Wed 10 July 2013
Wed 20 Nov 2013

North East

Wed 17 Oct 2012
Wed 6 Feb 2013
Tues 11 June 2013
Wed 30 Oct 2013

Yorkshire

Wed 10 Oct 2012
Wed 30 Jan 2013
Wed 12 June 2013
Wed 16 Oct 2013

Midlands

Wed 13 Feb 2013
Wed 26 June 2013
Wed 13 Nov 2013

London

Thur 8 Nov 2012
Wed 6 March 2013
Wed 3 July 2013
Wed 27 Nov 2013

South West

Wed 16 Jan 2013
Wed 15 May 2013
Wed 18 Sept 2013

Visit us on our stands at these Exhibitions:

Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

Apex City Quay Hotel, Dundee
22-23 October 2012
Stand 2

Homes 2012

Excel Centre, London
14-15 November 2012
Stand E25

Contact us at gasforum@corgitechnical.com if you would like to attend.



CORGI Technical Services Ltd

CORGI Technical Services Ltd has over 30 years of technical expertise in all aspects of gas safety. With comprehensive site audits, training for employees, a new VRQ gas safety qualification, legal advice and expert witness testimony, CORGI works with local authorities, housing associations, private landlords, contractors, energy suppliers and the travel industry, to support them with their gas safety obligations, compliance and continued improvement.

www.corgitechnical.com

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