Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS)

and the Energy Saving Trust
Transport Energy Assessor Training and Approval Scheme
This guide provides organisations with a brief overview of the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS). It also explains how the Energy Saving Trust’s new Transport Energy Assessor Training and Approval Scheme can help energy assessors improve the level of knowledge around transport energy consumption and efficiency.

What is ESOS?

ESOS has been established by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in response to the requirement for all Member States of the European Union to implement Article 8 of the Energy Efficiency Directive (‘the Directive’). The scheme mainly affects businesses but can also apply to not-for-profit bodies and any other non-public sector undertakings that are large enough to meet the qualification criteria.

Do you qualify?

You are likely to be in scope of ESOS if, on the qualification date (31 December 2014 for the first phase of ESOS), you meet the following criteria:

- Turnover > €50m?
- You have a balance sheet > €43m?
- >250 employees?

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You are also obliged to comply with ESOS if your undertaking is part of a corporate group, which includes another UK undertaking that meets either of the above conditions.

Organisations that are required to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 or the Public Contracts Regulations (Scotland) 2012 are exempt from the scheme.

Important ESOS dates

ESOS requires organisations as a whole to declare compliance to the scheme administrator once every four years. Organisations will have to:

- Assess whether they are within the scope of ESOS on the qualification date of each phase
- Undertake their ESOS assessment within the corresponding compliance phase
- Notify their compliance to the Environment Agency, which is the UK scheme administrator, by the corresponding compliance date.

What do organisations need to do as part of their ESOS assessment?

- Measure the total amount of energy consumed by buildings, transport and industrial processes
- Identify the areas of significant energy consumption (assets and activities that amount to 90% of the total energy consumption)
- Appoint an ESOS Lead Assessor who is registered on one of the approved registers
- Submit their ESOS assessment to the Environment Agency
- Keep records in the form of an evidence pack that supports the compliance declaration.

How to comply

The default route to comply with the requirements of ESOS will be for a lead assessor to undertake an energy audit, or a number of audits of a participant’s areas of significant energy consumption – or to review audits undertaken by others.

However, ESOS provides participants with a number of further possible routes to demonstrate that a compliant assessment of their organisation or group has been undertaken. Therefore, participants can choose to comply:

- By commissioning ESOS compliant energy audits
- Through their ISO 50001 certification
- Through Display Energy Certificates (DECs)
- Through Green Deal Assessments.

Table 1. ESOS timelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Qualification date</th>
<th>Four Year Compliance Phase</th>
<th>Compliance date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>31 December 2014</td>
<td>6 December 2011 – 5 December 2015</td>
<td>5 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>31 December 2018</td>
<td>6 December 2015 – 5 December 2019</td>
<td>5 December 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase 3</td>
<td>31 December 2022</td>
<td>6 December 2019 – 5 December 2023</td>
<td>5 December 2023</td>
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Failure to comply with ESOS requirements

There are a number of different civil penalties that the scheme compliance bodies are able to apply to organisations that fail to comply with the requirements of ESOS. These penalties can be enforced for:

- Failure to notify the Environment Agency of compliance by the required date
- Failure to maintain adequate records to demonstrate compliance with ESOS
- Failure to undertake an ESOS assessment
- Failure to comply with an enforcement, compliance or penalty notice
- Making a statement which is false and misleading.

More information can be found on the ESOS Guide published by the Environment Agency.

What types of transport are covered under ESOS?

- Organisations will have to measure the energy (usually in the form of fuel) consumed directly by their fleets
- The energy consumed by transportation services provided by a third party (such as a contractor) falls outside of the scope of the organisation’s ESOS assessment
- If an organisation is supplied with energy/fuel for international aviation/shipping/road and rail transportation, energy use for all journeys that start and/or end in the UK needs to be included in the assessment of the total energy consumption
- Commercial vehicles, HGV fleet, company cars and grey fleet are within the scope of ESOS given that the fuel is consumed for a business’ purposes
- The fuel/energy consumption associated with employees commuting to work is outside the scope of ESOS.

Organisations which have undertaken an Energy Saving Trust Green Fleet Review, or which are part of another transport focused energy management scheme, such as the Freight Transport Association’s Logistics Carbon Reduction Scheme (LCRS) will be able to use those activities and data to support ESOS compliance, where they are undertaken in a way which meets the minimum requirements of an ESOS Energy Audit.

How can the Energy Saving Trust help energy assessors with their ESOS transport energy assessment?

Energy from transport accounts for 38 per cent of total energy consumption in the UK. To support the energy assessor community help companies make savings from transport, the Energy Saving Trust has developed a new Transport Energy Assessor Training and Approval Scheme.

Having worked with fleets and the automotive supply chain for the last ten years, the Energy Saving Trust has vast experience in providing expert solutions to help individuals and organisations reduce energy use, emissions and fuel costs.

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2 Department of Energy and Climate Change, Energy Consumption in the UK, 2015.
More information about the Energy Saving Trust scheme

In agreement with the ESOS guidance, organisations need to appoint a lead assessor to check that their assessment meets ESOS requirements unless 100% of the energy use is covered by ISO 50001\(^3\) certification. The Energy Saving Trust has developed an ESOS transport energy training package that is aimed to help ESOS Lead Assessors, independent transport specialists as well as those involved with conducting energy audits within their organisation, leading to an Energy Saving Trust approved status and recognised level of competence.

The programme covers aspects of transport energy consumption with a simple 5 step approach as described below:

- **Modes of transport and fleet characterisation**
  Road, Rail, Air, Sea or Inland Water (IWW)
  e.g. Road fleet – motorcycles, cars, vans (LCV), trucks (HGV)

- **Data requirements and data availability**
  Fuel and/or activity data e.g. fuel/energy records, distances driven or claimed

- **Energy and CO\(_2\) emission calculations**
  Fuel based calculations or activity based estimations

- **Analysis or Results**
  Compare energy consumption across fleets, vehicles, operations and identify significant energy consumption and energy consumption profiles

- **Recommendations**
  Identify opportunities for energy saving and appropriate actions and measures that will reduce energy consumption/costs and improve energy efficiency

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3 To be compliant:
- the certification must remain valid at the compliance date.
- the Energy Management System must cover all of the assets held and activities carried on by your organisation as at the qualification date.
The scheme will run in partnership with ESOS Lead Assessor Approval bodies as well as independent Energy Assessor training providers with the overarching objective being:

- To bridge the knowledge gap that has been identified with energy assessors in the area of transport energy
- To help ensure a consistent approach is followed in the transport aspect of ESOS assessments
- Maximise the opportunities identified for reductions
- To stimulate organisations to take action to reduce energy consumption.

We are also planning to develop an endorsement scheme for the suppliers of the ESOS supporting services/products providing they meet set criteria and standards. This endorsement programme for ESOS support services can include but is not limited to, mileage and fuel management systems, telematics, route optimisation or scheduling solutions and ultra-low emission vehicles.

The diagram below illustrates the stakeholder plan with regards to the Energy Saving Trust’s approval programme.

Contact Energy Saving Trust for information on where to find a Transport Energy Assessor.
Next steps

This mini guide was developed to provide some key facts about ESOS and introduce our Transport Energy Assessor Training and Approval Scheme.

Some useful links to the legislation and relevant guidance are provided below.

ESOS Guide, Department of Energy and Climate Change
https://www.gov.uk/guidance/energy-savings-opportunity-scheme-esos

The ESOS Regulations 2014, National Archives

Complying with the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme, Environment Agency

Subsidised ecodriving training
Subsidised ecodriving training delivers fuel savings and safety benefits and is available directly from the training companies listed on here.

Fleet briefing
Our monthly newsletter covers a range of topics to help you reduce emissions and cut fleet costs. A wide range of topics are also presented in the webinar recordings available in our website.

Fleet Health Checks
Use our free online tool to calculate your fleet carbon footprint and provide simple recommendations about where and how you could cut costs and emissions.

Plug-in advice tool
Discover the opportunities for plug-in vehicles within your fleet. All you need to do is provide some basic details and we’ll send you a tailored report with recommendations.