



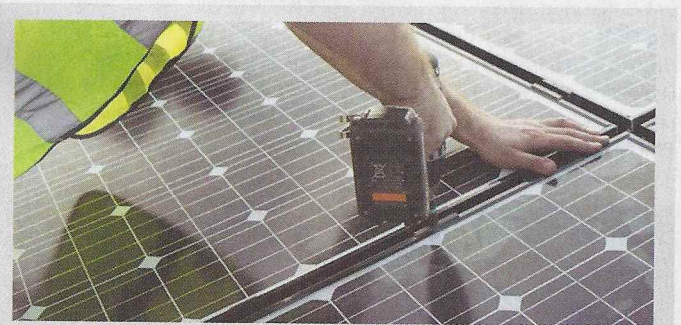
Growth spurt

Calibrationhouse, a specialist calibration service for electrical and electronic test and measurement equipment, has expanded its operations to meet growing industry demand.

The company has invested in extended workshop facilities and new test technology, as well as recruiting additional service and calibration engineers at its County Durham headquarters.

The expanded Calibrationhouse capability now includes infrared thermometry and thermal imaging cameras, as well as luminance (lux) meters and specialist audiology and other types of medical electronic equipment, in addition to the range of multimeters, 17th edition test equipment, PAT testers, high voltage test equipment, production line testers, oscilloscopes and high spec electronic instrumentation already included in the company's calibration and repair service.

To find out more visit www.calibrationhouse.com



Forward thinking

NAPIT is encouraging long term thinking for installers looking to expand their business to install solar PV.

Ofgem's new rates for solar PV installations came into action on the 1st January as part of the planned degression of the FITs. The new rates are 3.5% lower (going from 14.38p/kWh to 13.88p/kWh for example) than the previous tariffs.

Managing Director of NAPIT Certification, David Cowburn, said: "At NAPIT, we would urge installers not to be put off by the degression in terms of offering solar PV installations. The difference in rates is very small and PV is still very profitable over the 20 year period covered by the tariffs. There is still a fantastic business opportunity for installers who are looking to take a longer term approach to offering solar PV installations."

NAPIT offers MCS certification for installers working in the renewables industry, as well as training courses that cover everything you need to install solar PV panels.

To find out more visit www.napit.org

Big Wipes, big prizes

It's big prizes with Big Wipes this month as the company makes the highly anticipated announcement on who has won its Britain's Grimiest Electrician competition, in association with Professional Electrician.

The lucky winner is Dean Cook from DC Electrics, who as you can see, got caked in it when he was installing downlights! "I had to access a very small loft space. It was one of the hottest days of the year - just the job with a 100 years of soot to crawl through!" explains Dean. For his troubles he has won a year's supply of Big Wipes 4x4, an exciting (and mucky) off road 4x4 driving experience



and a much-needed cleansing spa day.

Big Wipes is on a mission to clean up tradespeople after a hard day's graft with its 4x4 range of industrial strength wipes, which contain four powerful cleaning agents and four dermatologically tested skin conditioners.

"We've seen some really grimy entries and heard stories which make your hair stand on end," says Nigel Dibbo, Managing

Director of Big Wipes. "But that's what Big Wipes 4x4 are designed for – a challenge - and Dean deserves a bit of our TLC! As busy tradespeople, your hands are your most important tools as they are your livelihood, so cleaning them effectively while still being able to care for them is extremely important."

And for Dean, however difficult and dirty his on-site jobs might be, keeping his hands clean is now going to be easy thanks to his prize haul!

Check out the competition gallery at www.bigwipes.com.

State of play

CEDIA has teamed up with Parks Associates to conduct extensive research into the UK residential custom installation market. The findings detail a healthy, growing CI market, with average turnover increasing by 30% in 2014.

The research suggests that the UK residential custom installation sector is in a positive position. It states that the market is sized as being worth between £910m and £975m and includes 1,000 – 1,500 active companies.

Wendy Griffiths, Executive Director of CEDIA EMEA, said: "The findings for 2013 – 2014 show that our industry is extremely prosperous, with an increase in turnover of 30%. We are pleased to see that the custom install industry remains buoyant, with around 2,500 new home technology professionals joining the market in the last year. These results are encouraging for the whole industry, as it is proof that exciting opportunities still exist in our sector."

To find out more visit www.cedia.co.uk



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