

# NEWS RELEASE

**RELEASE DATE:**

**RELEASE REF: BAXI 057**

## **The future is... ..renewables**

Thinking about renewable energy is something we can no longer put off. The effects of climate change and concerns for the future of the planet are well documented.

Increasingly extreme weather conditions, rising temperatures and sea levels and are international problems. And with more than a quarter of the UK's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions coming from the energy we use to heat, light and run our homes, it appears that the place to start may be at our own front doors.

The Government has set a target for reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050, and is encouraging households to consider renewable technologies to provide sustainable energy for use in the home. By using one or more of these systems, and by adopting some simple energy saving habits like turning the heating down a degree or two, using energy saving light bulbs and turning appliances off standby when not in use, we can cut our energy use and carbon dioxide emissions – and save money.

There are a number of renewable energy systems that can be added to an existing property or installed during construction or major refurbishment. However, it is most important that the right product is chosen to suit the home. And even more important that the whole project is viewed holistically to make sure that the property can support the system and it can perform to its optimum capability.

## **Solar domestic hot water systems**

Already well known and widely used, solar thermal water heating devices make use of free solar energy from the most abundant energy source we have – the sun.

Flat plate collector panels or evacuated tubes on the roof absorb energy from the sun and heat the water in a specially designed water storage cylinder such as the Megatech from Heatrae Sadia.

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In the summer, this system can supply up to 100 per cent of your hot water and even on the dullest day up to 10 per cent can be produced. Over the year it can produce around 50-60 per cent of hot water needed, while reducing carbon dioxide emissions by up to a tonne annually.

Ground source heat pumps, in simple terms, take the latent heat from the earth via heat collectors, called slinkies, which are buried in the ground. As the temperature of the ground below a certain depth remains constant all year round, this technology is particularly suitable for the UK's climate.

Ground source heat pumps are capable of producing four times more energy than they produce during operation and can offer carbon savings of up to two tonnes a year – as well as significant reductions in fuel bills. They are easy to install and maintain, and work cleanly and efficiently with minimal impact on the environment.

Air source heat pumps work in a similar way, and are easily installed on the roof, wall or can be floor standing and are particularly suitable where the ground space is limited.

Ground and air source heat pumps are ideal for those living in areas where mains gas is not available, and are suitable for well insulated homes using underfloor heating or low temperature radiators.

Biomass boilers use carbon neutral fuel such as wood pellets, chips or logs from local, regenerated sources to provide a sustainable and environmentally friendly heat source. The carbon released during the combustion process is balanced by that absorbed during the fuel's production.

As well as its range of high efficiency boilers, Baxi offers a comprehensive range of renewable energy sources: Baxi Solarflo, a solar thermal hot water package; Baxi

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Geoflo, a ground source heat pump package; Baxi Biomass solid fuel heating. Baxi is already working on the next generation of renewable and microgeneration technologies. New product development is mainly focussed around MicroCHP, essentially a gas boiler, similar in size to a normal wall hung boiler, which generates electricity for use in the home while providing heating and hot water.

For further information please visit [www.baxi.co.uk](http://www.baxi.co.uk) or telephone 0844 871 1555.

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For media information please contact:

Jocelynn Rowan, PR Officer, Baxi

T: 01926 478291 M: 07825 602043 F: 01772 646449

E: [jocelynn.rowan@baxigroup.com](mailto:jocelynn.rowan@baxigroup.com)

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