



NEWS RELEASE

3 DEC 2010

Oil heating Supplies Get Extra Delivery Hours

Industry Trade Body, the Federation of Petroleum Suppliers (FPS), which represents the majority of oil distribution companies in Great Britain, has applied to the Government for a relaxation of the legal restrictions on the number of hours that oil delivery drivers can work and are pleased to announce that the relaxation has today been granted.

These companies deliver almost all the home heating oil used in Great Britain and many provide a vital service for local communities and the temporary relaxation will help distributors to catch up with any backlog of orders caused by the extreme weather conditions.

Chief Executive of the FPS, Susan Hancock comments: "This is good news for both our members and their customers. Despite the current weather conditions, our members have been doing their utmost to get supplies to customers. They realise the importance of their work in ensuring the wellbeing of their customers."

The FPS and its members have also, over the last few months, been running a campaign to educate people to think ahead, order oil early and be prepared for bad weather situations.

Susan adds: "We must emphasise that customers need to think about ordering early each year before the bad weather hits. Suppliers are usually less busy in this period and able to offer better value than in the peak periods of December, January and February. This advice has certainly paid off this winter!"



It would also help to ease the situation if customers who currently have a good supply of oil in their tanks delay until the current backlog of orders has been dealt with rather than order a top-up of their tank at the moment, when they don't really need it.

Furthermore, our members understand that times are hard financially and people may feel they have to wait until they can afford it before ordering fuel, but a lot of oil distributors run payment schemes. These schemes enable customers to have bigger, less frequent deliveries but then spread the payments out over the whole year, helping both financially and ensuring homeowners don't run out of fuel when the bad weather hits hard."

For people wanting to find their nearest oil distributor the FPS has set up a special area on its website www.fpsonline.co.uk for consumers to easily find their nearest supplier.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

The Federation of Petroleum Suppliers (FPS) represents the majority of oil distribution companies in Great Britain, who are, in the main, small family businesses responsible for deliveries of almost all the home heating oil used in Great Britain, in addition to marine, agricultural, commercial, industrial and forecourt deliveries. There are currently over 180 members of the FPS across the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.