

INFORMATION PAPER

Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995

Certificates of Competency for

Automotive Gasfitting work on Forklifts and Motor Vehicles

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR AUTOMOTIVE GASFITTERS

As from 1 July 2009, there is a new system in place for those of you who install, repair or service automotive gas fuel systems on forklifts or motor vehicles.

All existing authorisations issued under regulation 60 of the *Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations 1998* expired on 30 June 2009.

If you held an authorisation before 30 June 2009, it will no longer be valid and you must contact Workplace Standards Tasmania to apply for a certificate of competency.

To contact Workplace Standards Tasmania you can:

- call the Helpline on 1300 366 322, or
- email wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au or
- write to Workplace Standards Tasmania at PO Box 56, Rosny Park, TAS, 7018.

Background

The legislation that regulated LPG automotive gasfitters was repealed on 1 July 2009. From that date a temporary licensing regime for automotive gasfitters has been put in place by the granting of certificates of competency under the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998*. Certificates of competency will cover work performed on vehicles and forklifts fuelled by LPG, CNG and LNG gases.

The development process has three stages -

Stage 1 Declaring work on automotive gas fuel systems in forklifts and vehicles a “specified task” under the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998*; and

Stage 2 Considering whether work on –

- (a) industrial equipment (LPG or CNG fuel gas systems for engines mounted on industrial equipment, either for the propulsion of the equipment or for driving some auxiliary function, e.g. a mixer or pump);
- (b) mobile engines (e.g. floor sweepers, polishers, tow tractors, elevating work platforms);
- (c) industrial stationary engines (up to 1GJ/hr fuelled by LPG, natural gas or CNG);
- (d) industrial stationary engines (reciprocating or rotating) for power generation, etc. supplied by reticulated fuel systems >1GJ/hr (LPG or NG); and
- (e) marine engines fuelled by gas -

should be declared “specified tasks” under the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998*.

Stage 3 Regulating working areas for gas-fuelled vehicles.

STAGE I

In the first stage, which commenced on 1 July 2009, the Director of Industry Safety determined -

- (a) that the work on the installation, service and repair - or service and repair only - of engines in gas-fuelled motor vehicles and forklifts, are “specified tasks”; and
- (b) the eligibility to be granted a certificate of competency for this work.

From 1 July 2009 onwards, those who want to perform this work will have to apply for a certificate of competency.

Classes of Certificates of Competency

There are two classes of certificates of competency issued under this Determination –

- (a) Motor Vehicles; and
- (b) Forklifts.

Certificates can be issued for –

- (a) LPG, CNG and LNG gases in the motor vehicle class of certificate; and
- (b) LPG and CNG gases in the forklift class of certificate.

Types of Certificates of Competency

There are four types of certificates of competency issued under each class. These are -

- (1) **Certificate of Competency** – (i.e. a “full” certificate). This certificate entitles the holder to carry out the full scope of work in the particular certificate class, i.e. *install/repair/service*.
- (2) **Restricted Certificates of Competency** may be issued to persons restricted to service and repair work only (i.e. *these persons may not “install”*).
- (3) **Provisional Certificates of Competency, and**
- (4) **Provisional Restricted Certificates of Competency**

Provisional - and provisional restricted - certificates of competency may be issued to persons such as overseas applicants who may hold comparable qualifications in another country but be unfamiliar with working to Australian standards of work. These persons will be assessed by a Registered Training Authority to identify gaps in knowledge and skills, and a provisional certificate of competency granted to enable the applicant to work under supervision until they are again assessed and deemed competent by a Registered Training Organisation. The applicant must then apply for a “full” certificate of competency.

Scope of Certificates

In arriving at who should be entitled to do particular types of automotive gasfitting work and hold an appropriate certificate, distinctions have been made amongst –

- the qualifications and units of competency in AUR05 – Automotive Industry Training Package Retail Service and Repair”; and
- who may “install”, “service” and “repair” as distinct from those who may **not** “install”, but only “service” and “repair”.

See paragraph 6 in the Determination for the definitions of “install”, “service” and “repair”.

The qualifications and competence of the applicant will determine the type of certificate of competency granted. The type of certificate of competency granted will determine the scope of work the holder is allowed to perform.

Qualifications

A list of entry level qualifications is included in the Determination at paragraphs 8 and 9. Depending on the class and type of certificate being applied for, and the gas to be used, some qualifications may be more appropriate than others. Applicants for a certificate are urged to contact Workplace Standards Tasmania in the first instance.

Applicants may be required to undergo an assessment of current competence and skills by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Any gap training identified during this assessment must be completed by the applicant and, before an application for a certificate of competency is considered, documentation confirming satisfactory completion of the gap training provided by the RTO.

In Stage 2 of the project, additional on-site or engine-specific manufacturer training may be required to be undertaken by the applicant after the certificate of competency has been granted.

Proof of current competence

Where an application is made for a certificate three years or more after the applicant has gained a relevant qualification, the applicant may need to satisfy the Director that he or she is still competent to perform the scope of work allowed by the relevant class and type of certificate.

Classes and Types of Certificates

All told, there are two classes and some 20 types of certificates of competency that can be granted under this Determination. Table 1 sets out, in general terms only, the types of certificates and the scope of work that can be performed for each certificate class. The conditions that may be imposed on certificate holders included in the table are examples only and will vary in individual cases. More information about the conditions that may apply to each certificate class and type is included in Tables 2 and 3 on pages 5 and 6.

Table 1

	Class	Gas	Type of Certificate of Competency	Scope of Work	Conditions, e.g.
1.	Motor Vehicle	LPG	Certificate of Competency (i.e. "full")	Install/repair/service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	May supervise etc.
2.	Motor Vehicle	LPG	Provisional	Install/repair/service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	Works under supervision, etc.
3.	Motor Vehicle	LPG	Restricted	Repair and service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	May supervise etc.
4.	Motor Vehicle	LPG	Provisional Restricted	Repair and service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	Works under supervision, etc.

	Class	Gas	Type of Certificate of Competency	Scope of Work	Conditions, e.g.
5.	Motor Vehicle	CNG	Certificate of Competency (i.e. "full")	Install/repair/service motor vehicles fuelled by CNG	May supervise etc.
6.	Motor Vehicle	CNG	Provisional	Install/repair/service motor vehicles fuelled by CNG	Works under supervision, etc.
7.	Motor Vehicle	CNG	Restricted	Repair and service motor vehicles fuelled by CNG	May supervise etc.
8.	Motor Vehicle	CNG	Provisional Restricted	Repair and service motor vehicles fuelled by CNG	Works under supervision, etc.
9.	Motor Vehicle	LNG	Certificate of Competency (i.e. "full")	Install/repair/service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	May supervise etc.
10.	Motor Vehicle	LNG	Provisional	Install/repair/service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	Works under supervision, etc.
11.	Motor Vehicle	LNG	Restricted	Repair and service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	May supervise etc.
12.	Motor Vehicle	LNG	Provisional Restricted	Repair and service motor vehicles fuelled by LPG	Works under supervision, etc.
13.	Forklift	LPG	Certificate of Competency (i.e. "full")	Install/repair/service forklifts fuelled by LPG	May supervise etc.
14.	Forklift	LPG	Provisional	Install/repair/service forklifts fuelled by LPG	Works under supervision, etc.
15.	Forklift	LPG	Restricted	Repair and service forklifts fuelled by LPG	May supervise etc.
16.	Forklift	LPG	Provisional Restricted	Repair and service forklifts fuelled by LPG	Works under supervision, etc.
17.	Forklift	CNG	Certificate of Competency (i.e. "full")	Install/repair/service forklifts fuelled by CNG	May supervise etc.
18.	Forklift	CNG	Provisional	Install/repair/service forklifts fuelled by CNG	Works under supervision, etc.
19.	Forklift	CNG	Restricted	Repair and service forklifts fuelled by CNG	May supervise etc.
20.	Forklift	CNG	Provisional Restricted	Repair and service forklifts fuelled by CNG	Works under supervision, etc.

Conditions on Certificates of Competency

Under regulation 41 of the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998*, the Director may impose conditions on certificates granted. Conditions that could be applied to the classes and types of certificates of compliance may include - but are not limited to – those set out in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2 Conditions that may be imposed on Motor Vehicle Certificates of Competency

Condition	Certificate of Competency	Provisional Certificate of Competency	Restricted Certificate of Competency	Provisional Restricted Certificate of Competency
Must perform the work in compliance with the appropriate Australian Standard (either AS/NZS1425 or AS/NZS2739)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Must perform the work only in the area of the certificate holder's competence.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
At the completion of the work –				
(i) must securely attach a compliance plate as specified in the appropriate Australian Standard (either AS/NZS1425 or AS/NZS2739);	Yes	No	No	No
(ii) must keep records of all work performed for a period of ten years, and lodge returns to the Director;	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
(iii) must certify all new installations to the owner of the vehicle and the Director, on a form provided by the Director, that all work carried out complies with the appropriate Australian Standard (either AS/NZS1425 or AS/NZS2739);	Yes	No	No	No
(iv) where a container is changed or re-tested, must ensure the appropriate parts of the compliance plates are reinscribed.	Yes	No	No	No
Must work under the *supervision of a competent person.	No	Yes	No	Yes
May supervise the work of apprentices or trainees, and provisional certificate holders, in the relevant gas.	Yes	No	Yes	No
Must ensure that the work performed by supervised persons complies with the appropriate Australian Standard (either AS/NZS1425 or AS/NZS2739).	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
Must lodge returns on behalf of supervised persons.	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A

Table 3 Conditions that may be imposed on Forklift Certificates of Competency

Condition	Certificate of Competency	Provisional Certificate of Competency	Restricted Certificate of Competency	Provisional Restricted Certificate of Competency
Must perform the work in compliance with AS4983	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Must perform the work only in the area of the certificate holder's competence.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
At the completion of the work –				
(i) must securely attach a compliance plate as specified in AS4983;	Yes	No	No	No
(ii) must keep records of all work performed for a period of ten years, and lodge returns to the Director; and	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
(iii) must certify all new installations to the owner of the vehicle and the Director, on a form provided by the Director, that all work carried out complies with AS4983.	Yes	No	No	No
Must work under the *supervision of a competent person.	No	Yes	No	Yes
May supervise the work of apprentices or trainees, and provisional certificate holders, in the relevant gas.	Yes	No	Yes	No
Must ensure that the work performed by supervised persons complies with AS4983.	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
Must lodge returns on behalf of supervised persons.	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A

***Supervision**

Guidelines on supervision have been developed for the electrical industry under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*.

When gasfitting work is, as intended, regulated under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*, the supervision document – the “Occupational Licensing (Supervision of Prescribed Work) Code of Practice 2008” (COP016) - will be modified to apply to the gasfitting industry, including automotive gasfitters.

In the meantime, those who employ or supervise persons being trained in “specified tasks” covered by the draft Determination, are encouraged to apply the supervision principles set down in the Occupational Licensing (Supervision of Prescribed Work) Code of Practice 2008 (COP016). The document can be downloaded from www.wst.tas.gov.au/ola

Non-Application to Apprentices and Other Persons undergoing training in “specified tasks”

Due to regulation 39(3)(a) of the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998*, the draft Determination does not apply to persons performing automotive gasfitting work on forklifts or motor vehicles who are undertaking a course of training (i.e. apprenticeship or traineeship) under direct supervision by a competent person.

Questions and Answers

How long will the certificate last?

Motor Vehicle and Forklift Certificates of Competency will be granted for a three-year term or until automotive gasfitting regulations under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005* are brought into being, whichever happens first. When the automotive gasfitting regulations take effect under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*, this Determination will be revoked.

What will the fee be for my certificate?

As at 1 July 2009, the application fee for a certificate of competency is \$21.28 and the fee for a three-year certificate is \$38.57.

Where can I get the application forms from?

You can download application forms from the Workplace Standards Tasmania website www.wst.tas.gov.au/safety_and_compliance/dang_subs/lpg/automotive_gasfitter or search for automotive gasfitter.

Where do I get more information?

- contact the Workplace Standards Tasmania Helpline on 1300 366 322 or
- email wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au or
- write to Workplace Standards Tasmania at PO Box 56, Rosny Park, TAS, 7018.

STAGE 2

The second stage of this project will consider –

1. Industrial Equipment Certificate of Competency

It is intended that these certificates will cover LPG or CNG fuel gas systems for engines mounted on industrial equipment, either for the propulsion of the equipment or for driving some auxiliary function, e.g. a mixer or pump.

2. Mobile Engines Certificates of Competency

The Certificate will apply to LPG or CNG fuelled mobile equipment such as floor sweepers, polishers, tow tractors, elevating work platforms.

3. Industrial Stationary Engines Certificates of Competency

This certificate will apply to small industrial stationary engines (up to 1,050 MJ/hr fuelled by LPG or CNG).

4. Industrial Stationary Engines (reciprocating or rotating) for Power Generation, etc. supplied by Reticulated Fuel Systems >1GJ/hr (LPG or NG)

It is proposed that Type B gasfitting certificates of competency will be split into three -

- (i) Existing equipment referenced in the scope of AS 3814 (boilers and furnaces etc);
- (ii) Rotating engines (Brayton cycle -turbines) referenced in ISO 21789 or IGE/UP/9; and

(iii) Reciprocating engines (Otto, Diesel, Carnot cycle engines)

Note 1: Where an industrial stationary engine is connected to a natural gas or LPG reticulated fuel supply, work on appliances will be certificated for -

- (a) Equipment covered by the scope of AS3814 (design, installation, testing, commissioning), would require no change to existing programs, including the restricted certification.
- (b) Engines (rotating) referenced in ISO or IGE standards and having fuel consumptions >1GJ/hr (service, test, maintain, repair). All design and commissioning functions downstream of, and including, the engine isolation valve, would be a responsibility of the manufacturer.
- (c) Engines (reciprocating) having a fuel consumption >1 GJ/hr (service, test, maintain repair). All design and commissioning functions downstream of, and including, the engine isolation valve would be a responsibility of the manufacturer.

- Note 2:*
- (a) A reticulated gas supply up to the engine/appliance isolation valve with a MAOP <200 kPa, shall be installed by a Type A gasfitter.
 - (b) A reticulated gas supply with a MAOP >200 kPa shall have design, design verification, construction, installation, testing and commissioning in accordance with the Director of Gas Safety approvals and certifications.

5. Marine Engines

Consideration will be given to including gas-fuelled marine engines, both in-shore and off-shore, covered by AS4732.

Consultation on Stage 2

Workplace Standards Tasmania will commence consultations with affected stakeholders as soon as possible after the completion of Stage 1, to identify whether the current Type B courses being delivered by the Tasmanian Skills Institute are appropriate.

The greater part of the gas control and internal combustion work on large reciprocating power generation equipment, fuelled by reticulated natural gas or LPG, is work on internal combustion engines. Additionally, the greater part of the high pressure gas supply, conditioning, control and internal combustion engineering work on rotating power generation turbines, covered by the scope of the relevant ISO or IGE standards on high speed rotating engines, is highly specialised.

In recognising that the work and training is specialised and is not covered in any detail by current industry training, it is the intention to assess the need for an introductory level Type B training program with the responsibility for the specialised training to be provided by the manufacturers and operators, under the Director of Gas Safety approval process. Appropriate persons to undertake work on this equipment are those with a background in diesel fitting, Type B gasfitting, and electrical work.

This issue will be discussed during consultations with industry, and the most applicable gasfitting competencies identified.

The installation of the gas supply up to 200 kPa to the appliance would still be considered Type A gasfitting work under the scope of AS5601.

It is expected that a national certification program will develop, in the foreseeable future, for the certification of reciprocating and rotating engines with fuel consumption up to 1000 MJ/hr. This would be an extension of gas certification authority schemes which currently test and certify gas appliances approved by the Director of Gas Safety.

STAGE 3

Regulating working areas for gas-fuelled vehicles

Australian Standard AS2746 Working areas for gas-fuelled vehicles, references both AS/NZS1425 and AS4983 which are both referenced in the Director's Determination in Stage 1. It is proposed that when gasfitting regulations are developed under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*, workshops and premises where automotive gasfitting work are undertaken, will be made subject to controls. A timeline for this stage of the project has not been determined.