



# Gas Bulletin

No. 2 - January 2006

## Update - Natural Gas Rollout

Work on Stage 1 of the Natural Gas Rollout is now complete with gas flowing to Bell Bay, Burnie, Devonport, Hobart, Launceston, Longford, Westbury and Wynyard.

The Stage 2 rollout has commenced with gas distribution networks now extending into zones within the following suburbs: Sandy Bay, New Town, Lenah Valley, Bridgewater, Invermay, South Launceston, Kings Meadows and West Devonport.

## Gas Distribution Mains and Services

A person must not without authority-

*Attach a gas installation, or make any connection to a distribution system.*

*Disconnect or interfere with a supply of gas from a distribution system.*

*Damage or interfere with gas infrastructure or a gas installation in any other way.*

Gas distribution mains are identified by field markers every 100 metres or street curb side markers every 50 metres.

*Dial Before You Dig* (DBYD) assists you in locating underground pipelines in the area you are planning to dig. Enquiries should be directed to phone: 1100 at least two working days prior to excavation. DBYD has a new on-line enquiry service that allows people to call up a map on screen and mark their dig site, allowing greater accuracy. This facility can be viewed at [www.dialbeforeyoudig.com.au](http://www.dialbeforeyoudig.com.au).

## Emergency Contact Information

Firecom	State Fire Service Control	6230 8420
Police	Radio Room	6230 2111
SES	State Duty Officer	6230 2828
Powerco	24 Hour Emergency	180 2111
Alinta	24 Hour Emergency	1800 195 666
Workplace Standards Tasmania	Gas Standards and Safety	1300 366 322
	24 Hour Emergency	

## Gas Standards and Safety website

A comprehensive web site devoted entirely to Tasmanian gas industries, technical standards and safety requirements is available for viewing at: <http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/gas>

## Gasfitter Licensing

All gasfitters are reminded if they undertake installation, commissioning, conversion or modifications to natural gas installations or appliances they must hold a Certificate of Competency in Natural Gas Fitting, issued by the Director of Industry Safety at Workplace Standards Tasmania.

For details on licensing please contact Workplace Standards Tasmania (Gas Standards and Safety):

Ph: 1300 366 322 or for interstate callers (03) 6233 7657

Fax: (03) 6334 4543 – Attention: Melita

Email: [Melita.Pickering@dier.tas.gov.au](mailto:Melita.Pickering@dier.tas.gov.au)

## Certification of Installations

Gasfitters are required to issue a **Gas Fitting Notice** for work undertaken on natural gas installations. The relevant copy of the gas fitting notice is to be forwarded, as per the instructions

to the gas distributor, the consumer and the Director of Gas Safety, with a copy to be retained by the gasfitter. Gas Fitting Notice Books are available for purchase through all regional offices of Workplace Standards Tasmania for \$28.00 each. An additional fee of \$5.00 is applicable if mailing.

## Gas Appliances

### Flueless Gas Heaters

As natural gas becomes available in residential suburbs, the selection of household heating appliances currently on the market will be on the minds of gas consumers, deciding which style would best suit their needs.

Recent studies have found that there may be an increased risk to health due to the emissions from "unflued" gas heaters, which release emissions directly into an occupied room.

Gasfitters and consumers are referred to additional information and publications at:

<http://enhealth.nphp.gov.au/council/pubs/ecpub.htm>

Gasfitters must ensure that unflued gas heaters are installed in accordance with **AS 5601-2004 Gas Installations**.

## Gas Appliance Certification

The Director of Gas Safety has approved the Australian Gas Association and recently SAI Global to approve gas appliances for installation in Tasmania.

Products approved by SAI Global will be identified by the Gas Safety Certification Mark. For further information visit [www.sai-global.com](http://www.sai-global.com).

## Relevant Standard applicable for Gas Appliance Approval

Class of Gas Appliance Declared by the Director of Gas Safety	Australian Standard No.
Domestic gas cooking appliances	AS 4551
Gas fired water heaters for hot water supply and/or central heating	AS 4552
Gas space heating appliances	AS 4553
Gas laundry dryers	As 4554
Domestic gas refrigerators	AS 4555
Indirect gas-fired ducted air heaters	AS 4556
Domestic outdoor gas barbecues	AS 4557
Decorative log fires and other fuel effect appliances	AS 4558
Gas pool heaters	AS 4560
Commercial catering gas equipment	AS 4563
Overhead radiant gas heaters	AS 4643
LPG mobile and industrial direct fired air heaters	AS 4644
Radiant gas heaters for outdoor and non-residential indoor use	AS 4565
LP Gas – Portable and mobile appliances	AS 2658

## Gas Appliance – Conversions / Modifications

Installed and approved Type A Gas Appliances with approved gas conversion specifications or conversion kits are able to be converted from LPG to Natural Gas by gas fitters in accordance with manufacturers instructions.

A gas fitting notice must be provided to the consumer, gas distributor and the Director of Gas Safety (DGS) on completion.



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Approved gas appliances without approved conversion specifications or kits must be approved for modification by the DGS. Contact Gas Standards and Safety for details of approval procedures to enable modification to gas appliances.

Non-Approved gas appliances are not suitable for conversion, modification or installation.

## Electrical to Gas Appliance Conversions

Gasfitters with restricted electrical licences (REL) may only disconnect and reconnect like for like equipment. Conversions of electric to gas water heaters and cooktops will require an electrical contractor to complete electrical work.

## Gas Appliances – Product Recalls

Details of the following and other product withdrawals can be found at Product Recalls Australia website: [www.recalls.gov.au](http://www.recalls.gov.au)

Product	Supplier	Date withdrawn from market
Sidek PRX pressure relief valve	Manchester Tank & Equipment Co (Aust)	30/08/2005
Coleman Barbeque Models 5100, 5300 and 5600	Coleman	29/8/2005
Coleman "Road Trip" Gas Grills Models 9941-768A and 9944 851A	Coleman	13/9/2005
Overseas Model RA201 LPG Regulator and Hose Assembly	Cape Trading Sales	27/6/2005

## Gas Standards – New Australian Standard

Standards Australia has released a new edition of **AS 3814 – 2005 Industrial and commercial gas fired appliances**.

The Director of Gas Safety requires that all Type B gas appliances designed and manufactured after September 2005 are to comply with this new standard.

Australian Standards can be purchased directly from Birchalls TAFE Bookshop, 75 Campbell Street, Hobart, 7000.  
Phone (03) 6233 7405 or [www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au)

## Identification of Gas Installations

Contents of pipes, conduits and ducts need to be identified. Gas Standards and Safety remind all gasfitters that gas installations must be identified in accordance with AS5601 clause 4.1.12 prior to commissioning.

Failure to comply with this prescribed standard may require a defects notice to be issued for the non-compliance.

## Model VGD 20.503 Class 1 Automatic Shut off Valve Gas

The current Australian Gas Association (AGA) Directory of Certified Gas Appliances and Components does not include an entry for this model of safety shut off valve.

Gas Standards & Safety have contacted the AGA and they have advised that their records indicate this valve continues to be certified under Certificate number 4570.

## Use of Black Steel Pipe and Galvanised Pipe up to 200 kPa

The inclusion of Australian Standard [AS 1074 - Steel Tubes and Tubulars for Ordinary Service] was included in **AS 5601** in 1995. The dimensions of steel tubes for medium grade carbon steel pipe in table 2.2 of AS 1074 differ from that in table 3.1 of AS 5601.

The Office advises that if the intended design of a gas installation includes the use of galvanised or black steel pipe manufactured in accordance with table 2.2 of AS 1074 the pipe is considered acceptable for use.

## Future Occupational Licensing

Gasfitters with current natural gas, certificates of competency will have their certification recognised for an extended time during the development and implementation of the Occupational Licensing Act.

Individuals who have not been able to practice in the natural gas industry due to the distribution network construction schedules, will be granted an extension of their certification when their 3 year renewals are due. Details will be forwarded individually.

Current gasfitters registered with the Plumbers & Gasfitters Registration Board who wish to undertake the TAFE skills upgrade and obtain the appropriate natural gas certification can obtain information from our web site under Licensing - Gasfitters.

A system for mutual recognition of interstate registered gasfitters already exists. Details may be obtained from GSS.

## Occupational Licensing Act

This legislation was passed during the November session of the Parliament and received the Royal Assent on 24/11/2005 but is not yet proclaimed to take effect.

The implementation of the Act into the gas industry will be progressive during 2006, gasfitters will be advised accordingly.

## Workplace Standards Tasmania Gas Standards and Safety

**In Tasmania** 1300 366 322

**Outside Tasmania** (03) 6233 7657

**Hobart** 30 Gordons Hill Rd, PO Box 56  
Rosny Park 7018

**Launceston** Henty House 1 Civic Sq,  
Launceston 7250

**Burnie** Reece House, 46 Mount St, PO Box 287,  
Burnie 7320

**Website** [www.wst.tas.gov.au/gas](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/gas)

**Infrastructure Quality Assurance Officers are available at regional offices to assist you to interpret legislation and accept submissions.**