

## Information Sheet No 17 CONNECTION OF COMMERCIAL CATERING EQUIPMENT

### Introduction

This information sheet provides additional information and guidance on Connection of Commercial Catering Equipment. The local health authority may also have special requirements that should be noted before commencing the installation.

### Applicable standard

Commercial catering equipment must be installed to the requirements of AS 5601 - *Gas Installations*.

AS 5601 gives general requirements that apply to the connection of appliances by hose assembly, but there is no specific reference to commercial catering equipment.

### Hose assemblies

Flexible hoses must be used as a complete assembly. Each assembly must be certified by the Australian Gas Association in accordance with AS/NZS 1869 - *Hose and hose assemblies for liquefied petroleum gases (LP Gas), natural gas and town gas*, and be suitable for the proposed application.

They must also be of adequate size for the maximum gas consumption of the appliance.

### Prohibited installation methods

Pursuant to clause 4.8.4 of AS 5601 a hose assembly must not pass through:

- (a) a wall, portable partition, ceiling or floor
- (b) a fixed partition, unless the hole is made large enough to allow the hose and its attachments to pass through without damage
- (c) the panel or casing of the appliance, unless the appliance is specially manufactured to avoid damage to the hose.

### Hose assembly connecting a portable or mobile appliance

Clause 4.8.7 of AS 5601 states that where a hose assembly is to be used to connect a portable or mobile appliance, the assembly shall:

- (a) be connected permanently to the appliance and have a manual shut-off valve and union fitted at the inlet end of the hose assembly, or
- (b) be connected permanently to the appliance and have a quick-connect device which automatically shuts off the gas supply when disconnected, or
- (c) have a manual shut-off valve at the inlet end of the hose assembly (where a quick-connect device which automatically shuts off the gas supply when disconnected is located at the appliance end of the hose assembly).

Method b is preferred, but c is commonly used with larger appliances.

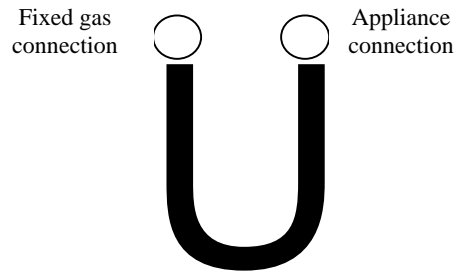
### Appliance restraint where a hose assembly is used

Where a hose assembly connects to an appliance having a mass greater than 20kg and is portable refer to clauses 5.2.18 – 5.2.19 of AS 5601.

### **Length of and arrangement of hose**

A hose assembly shall be as short as practicable and not exceed 3 meters. The hose should be long enough to allow access for disconnection or cleaning, and short enough to prevent it touching the floor or becoming damaged.

Strain on the hose and its connections must be avoided. The preferred method of installation is for the hose to hang freely in a 'U' shape.



### **Operating conditions**

You must take care to avoid high temperature locations, hot surfaces, trapping or kinking of the hose, and placing the hose under stress or strain.

### **Appliance restraint**

You must restrain commercial catering equipment to prevent tension being applied to the hose connections when the appliance is moved.

### **Method of restraint**

The accepted method of restraint is by a chain or wire anchored at one end and fixed at the other end in a way that will allow it to be removed.

### **Connecting other appliances**

Wherever available, the manufacturers' installation instructions should be followed to determine the method of connection.

Usually appliances that are not mobile are connected by rigid pipe.

### **Fitting wheels or castors**

Commercial catering equipment is invariably heavy, and it can be hazardous for a customer to try to move an appliance that is not fitted with wheels. Wheels or castors should not be fitted to appliances without consent from the appliance manufacturer. An appliance with wheels or castors must have means fitted to prevent the appliance moving during its operation, such as a wheel-locking system.

**If further information is required, please contact  
Gas Standards and Safety on 1300 366 322**

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