

Fuel Safety Bulletin

2000-03

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Rev. 1: Dec. 1, 2011

Subject: General

Welcome to the third in the series of Y2K bulletins issued from this Office. These bulletins are meant to be a source of information and code/regulation interpretations for our industry. Therefore, we would encourage each of you to submit items that you would like to see addressed here. This information will only increase the benefits derived from bulletin publication.

Many of you have commented on the upgrade training and the Gas Fitter trade courses that are presently offered by the NS Community Colleges. Some of these responses have been negative. We can only advise you to continue to make your objections and problems known to this office and the Department of Education. This is the only way we will know what areas need improvement. This program is in its infancy, and development work continues with making our trade a nationally accepted "red seal" trade designation.

The following are a few items for your attention;

- 1. Permit submission forms** - While these are arriving and being processed as quickly as possible, we are still seeing installation work for which there is no permit. Please note that a permit or registration is required for any installation, or any change in an installation. The old 200,000btu limits no longer apply.
- 2. Flexible connectors on radiant tube heaters** - Attached is a copy of a letter received by me from the Chief Gas Inspector in Alberta and a Product Advisory from CSA. Please read them carefully and advise this office of any similar incidents in your area.
- 3. Equipment failures** - In view of the attached advisory, it is imperative that this office is informed of any equipment failures. Often field experience is very different from laboratory testing. It is, therefore, important that the testing laboratories be notified of any failures in the field, so that appropriate actions can be taken by them.
- 4. Decorative gas log sets** - Recently there has been an increase in the sale of gas log sets for installation in masonry fireplaces. The question has arisen regarding the venting of these units. While we would solicit your comments on this issue, the following will apply for the present time;
 - A. Units less than 30,000 btu** - The chimney sizing requirements of Clause 8.13.1(b) will not apply to these units. All other code clauses apply.
 - B. Units over 30,000 btu** - Clause 8.13.1(b) applies along with all other applicable code clauses.
- 5. Rooftop piping** - Over the past winter we have had three (3) piping failures on roof top installations. These failures were due to snow loads and high wind conditions. Please remember these items when supporting piping on roofs. To help with this problem, 3/4 pipe should be the minimum size used and the supports should be secured to the roof/framing of the building. Placement and spacing of supports is also very important.
- 6. Convertible piping systems** - Many homebuilders are now asking for propane systems to be installed, in new homes, which could be easily converted to natural gas use. Some of you have simply installed the standard propane systems with the opinion that the natural gas systems will employ 2-pound regulator systems. Please contact the natural gas supplier to ensure that this pressure will be available in the future.

Should there be any questions regarding these issues, or any items that you would like addressed in a future Bulletin, please contact me at our Halifax office. Our phone number here is 424-5721 or 1-800-559-3473. Our Fax number is 902-424-3239.

Sincerely

Dale C. Stewart
Chief Inspector - Fuel Safety