



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **CSA GROUP AND THE AUSTRALIAN GAS ASSOCIATION (AGA) FORM STRATEGIC ALLIANCE TO OFFER GLOBAL MARKET ACCESS SOLUTIONS TO GAS APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS IN CHINA**

**Guangzhou, September 11, 2013** – CSA Group, a leading global testing and certification organization and the Australian Gas Association (AGA), a name synonymous with gas-safety in Australasia, are announcing a new strategic alliance today, the centre-piece of which is the registration of CSA Group's Guangzhou laboratory facility as an Authorised AGA Testing Laboratory. AGA certification provides free market access throughout all Australian states and territories and New Zealand and the alliance announced today, means that manufacturers in southern China wishing to export to the Australian and New Zealand markets, will be able to gain AGA Certification based upon testing carried out locally at CSA's Gaungzhou laboratory.

"The AGA alliance is at the core of our commitment to providing faster and more cost efficient localized testing and certification services to our customers in China with global gas market access solutions," said Ash Sahi, CEO and President of CSA Group. "At CSA Group, we are constantly seeking out new strategic business alliances tailored to supporting a One-Stop Shopping approach for manufacturers who require multiple certifications for different markets."

As an AGA Authorised Laboratory, the Guangzhou facility will test gas products to the applicable AGA requirements and standards to support the growing demand of Chinese gas product manufacturers for the Australian and New Zealand markets. This initiative will benefit existing CSA Group and AGA customers by reducing travel time and costs associated with testing samples; by shortening turnaround time of reports; and providing a more predictable route to earning the AGA mark. This alliance gives CSA Group the advantage of providing a combined express service for clients seeking certification for both the Australasian and North American markets and further demonstrates the organization's vigilance in being a global service provider.

“We are delighted to announce our alliance with CSA today, for it is an alliance with an old and trusted friend of longstanding. It means that AGA will be able to offer a local service in southern China to its Members, existing and potential new clients alike, that will save them time, reduce compliance costs and eliminate the uncertainty associated with meeting Australia’s stringent gas-safety regulations,” said Chris Devlin, Chairman of AGA.

CSA Group’s gas laboratory, located in Guangzhou Science Park, is fully equipped with advanced equipment and staffed with highly qualified engineers. In addition to the AGA mark, the gas laboratory has also been accredited and qualified to provide testing and certification services on NOM mark and CE mark for Mexico and European markets.

The alliance with AGA further expands the coverage of CSA Group’s one-stop gas appliance testing and certification services, ultimately allowing for increased access to more markets. With dedicated and accredited gas laboratories in China, Europe and North America, CSA Group is well positioned to meet the growing needs of clients seeking local services while accessing the global marketplace.

#### **About CSA Group:**

CSA Group is an independent, not-for-profit membership association dedicated to safety, social good and sustainability. Its knowledge and expertise encompass standards development; training and advisory solutions; global testing and certification services across key business areas including hazardous locations and industrial, plumbing and construction, medical, safety and technology, appliances and gas, alternative energy, lighting and sustainability; as well as consumer product evaluation services. The CSA certification mark appears on billions of products worldwide. For more information about CSA Group visit [www.csagroup.org](http://www.csagroup.org).

#### **About AGA:**

The Australian Gas Association (AGA) is an independent, not-for-profit membership association dedicated to provide high quality competitive services to industry and government regulatory authorities and to contribute to the safety, reliability and energy efficiency of gas, gas cylinder, electrical and plumbing products. AGA developed the Australian Standards for all gas components and gas appliances and is now instrumental in the maintenance and improvement of these Standards, taking into consideration future innovative technologies and international progression. AGA’s Certification services and state of the art safety and performance testing facilities assist manufacturers and suppliers all over the world to enter into the Australian market efficiently and confidently.

For more information about The Australian Gas Association (AGA), visit [www.aga.asn.au](http://www.aga.asn.au)