



AGA NewsFlash
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AGA Calibration Service Available for pressure measurement instruments and equipment

We are pleased to announce that our NATA accreditation for the calibration of pressure measurement instruments and equipment has been confirmed. We are excited to offer our customers the calibration service of all pressure measurement instruments and equipment, including pressure gauges, manometers and pressure transducers.

For more information, or to receive a quotation, please contact our Laboratory Manager, Mr Dennis Karafotias.



LPG Cylinders in Australia

Importing LPG cylinders into Australia encompass numerous government Regulations and Standard requirements, most of which are covered under the AS 2030 series of Standards and the Australian Dangerous Goods Code. Some of these requirements include Design Verification, Type Testing, Factory Inspection, Design Notification and ongoing Monitoring Inspections during every production run. There is also a requirement to have every production cylinder inspected and stamped by a certified cylinder test station before it is supplied to the Australian market. The cylinder test station must be specifically authorised to conduct the inspections on new LPG cylinders.



The AGA Cylinder Certification Scheme ensures all the regulations and Standard requirements are captured while consolidating every stage of the compliance process. In addition, the Scheme ensures the cylinder valve, safety valve, surface coating requirements as well as the documentation/record responsibilities are complied with. Apart from providing an enhanced level of quality assurance, the compliance costs could be significantly reduced by using the Scheme given the lower inspection and test station fees.

If importing or supplying LPG cylinders to the Australian marketplace, to ensure all your legal and insurance obligations are met and are also covered for every state and territory in Australia please contact our Group Manager, Technical Operations, Mr Billy (Vasilios) Tabourlos.

LPG Cylinder Valve POL Connection requirements

The mandatory connection for domestic LPG cylinder valves is the Type 21 [0.885-14NGO-LH-INT, commonly referred to as the "POL" connection] as specified in Australian Standard AS 2473.2. The POL connection is the standard connection in Australia to ensure compatibility between LPG cylinder valves and LPG hose assemblies/regulators. AS 2473.2 was updated and published on 12th November 2015 to include the following additional requirements:

“Any nipple incorporating an O-ring or soft tip shall have a shape such that a continuous metal to metal contact is provided and the profile is maintained to limit leakage if the O-ring or soft tip is removed.



O-rings and soft tips shall comply with the following additional requirements:

- a) Not be capable of dislodgment under normal service for the expected service life of the connection.*
- b) Be of a durable wear-resistant material.*
- c) Be resistant to degradation from UV.*
- d) Be suitable for service with the range of compounds present in commercial LPGas including propylene, butylenes as well as propane and butane (consideration should be given to the presence of phthalates and other plasticisers leached from rubber components in the supply chain).”*

The additional requirements may affect some Certificate Holders who supply LPG regulators, hose assemblies and LPG appliances, specifically designed with a rubber POL connection [commonly referred to as BULL nose connection]. If you have any questions, please contact your AGA Client Manager.

Trans-Pacific Partnership

It's a common knowledge now that at the end of January this year, Donald Trump signed an executive order to withdraw the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Recently, Australia's ambassador to the United States Joe Hockey has criticised the US for renegeing on the TPP. Mr Hockey also criticised the rise of anti-globalisation and protectionist sentiment.

China, meanwhile, has taken full advantage. Since 2012, it has been negotiating a trade agreement to rival the TPP: the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), comprising all 10 Asean states with six other proximate states with which the Southeast Asian trade bloc has existing free trade arrangements — Australia, China, Japan, India, New Zealand and South Korea. The would-be member states have a combined population of 3.4bn people and 30 per cent of global GDP.

Unlike the TPP, the RCEP does not have any labour or environmental protection provisions, which not only makes it more attractive for some Asean members but also reduces the complexity of negotiations. Furthermore, the RCEP represents a vital opportunity for the pact's smaller nations, as they will be able to more easily access to the larger participants' consumer markets and attract investors.

Former U.S ambassador to China, Max Bacus said, "China is going to fill that void, there is no question (about it) with their RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership)." Even though U.S has withdrawn from TPP and most likely this agreement will not proceed amongst the other remaining countries, implementation of RCEP will provide Australia an opportunity to become an important partner in this alliance because of its respected and broad based service industry and R&D. Gas appliance manufacturers and importers will have access to a much bigger market with low barriers of trade.



Latest Standards Updates

AS 4630 (Leakage Detection Systems) has been updated and published on the 23rd March 2017. Changes include allowing marking of alternative pressure units of measure.

AS/NZS 5601.2 – 2013 Gas Installations – Part 2 (LP Gas Installations in caravans & boats) has also been updated and published on the 9th March 2017.

Please contact your AGA Client Manager if you have any queries.

