

30 October 2017



AGA NewsFlash
Please forward to others within your organisation.

AGA NewsFlash

AGA - Annual General Meeting 30th November 2017

The 56th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Australian Gas Association will be held on Thursday 30th November 2017 at AGA's Head Office, located at 66 Malcolm Rd Braeside Victoria 3195.

A formal Notice of Meeting and associated documentation has been sent to all Members. A light lunch will be served after the meeting which will provide an excellent networking opportunity. Don't forget to mark this date in your calendar.



2017 AGA Industry Forum Gas in a CLIMATE OF CHANGE Tues 28th & Wed 29th Nov 2017

Registrations for the 2017 AGA Industry Forum are closing soon and are seats are filling fast. Don't miss out.



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

This year's forum will take place on the days before our Annual General Meeting for the convenience of AGA's interstate and overseas Members. For more information please follow this link:

<http://www.aga.asn.au/2017-aga-industry-forum> or contact our event organisers Mrs Kristy Stanley or Mrs Sandi Hubbard.

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10th Gas Appliance Certification Meeting (GACM) of the Western-Pacific Region

AGA Managing Director & CEO, Chris Wealthy and Ivan Marsic, Manager Certifications attended the 10th GACM in Tokyo Japan in the week commencing 16th October 2017. The event was hosted by the Japan Gas Appliances Inspection Association (JIA) and was well attended by the leading gas certification bodies, many government representatives and some of the leading manufacturers of the Western-Pacific region.

The GACM is a biennial event which was founded twenty years ago as it was recognised that as the trade of gas products within the Western-Pacific region increased it was important to maintain or improve the level of consumer safety throughout the region. AGA, along with JIA, Korea Gas Safety Corporation (KGS), China Quality Supervision & Testing Centre for Gas Appliances (CGAC) and the then Productivity & Standards Board - Singapore were the founding

members of the GACM in 1997 and over the years it has proven to be a valuable forum in which the leading certification bodies can exchange technical information about gas safety-related issues in the region and develop strategies to address them.

This year, representatives from Japan, Korea, PR China, SAR Hong Kong, Taiwan and Australia attended the 10th GACM.



AGA's Ivan Marsic delivered a paper on butane cartridge cookers and gas cartridges in which he outlined some of the safety issues that had been experienced in Australia including the measures adopted to address them. In his presentation, Ivan explained that in Australia, these appliances are often used outdoors with large cooking vessels (e.g. large frying pans or barbecue grill plates) in the hot summer months. The effect of high ambient temperature conditions is compounded by reflected heat from larger cooking vessels on the gas cartridge which further raises the temperature of the butane cartridge and can result in excessively high vapour pressures in the cartridge. Ivan also discussed how the gas composition in the cartridge is critical in determining the internal cartridge pressure at any given temperature and why manufacturing quality control of both the gas cartridge and the butane cooker is critical in assuring consumer safety.

Yum Char Trolleys

Most of us would have enjoyed a meal at a local Chinese restaurant and many of us would have chosen various delectable dishes from a Yum Char trolley as it is wheeled around the restaurant by a waiter. Recently it was brought to AGA's attention that some of these trolleys do not incorporate basic safety features and may put the safety of restaurant patrons and staff at risk.

This prompted AGA to investigate this issue in conjunction with the various state and territory regulatory authorities. Our investigations revealed that many of the Yum-Char trolleys in use do not satisfy what we consider to be an adequate level of safety, bearing in mind that the trolleys are wheeled amongst patrons in a crowded restaurant. Some of the issues identified include unrestrained 9kg LPG cylinders, lack of safety features such as flame-failure and over-temperature protection devices to mention a few.

Some of these trolleys incorporate boiling water trays and some even have an oil-filled vessel for deep frying food. This changes the concept of a Yum-Char trolley and the idea of wheeling a mobile deep fryer around in a crowded restaurant is questionable to say the least.

It appears that many of the Yum Char trolleys being used in Chinese restaurants do not meet essential safety requirements as outlined in AS3645 and, therefore, AGA has initiated a program to write a technical safety specification for gas-fired Yum Char trolleys. The plan is to submit this document to state and territory regulatory authorities in order that the safety issues and proposed risk mitigation measures can be considered and appropriate regulatory intervention adopted as deemed necessary. We hope to be in a position to submit the draft technical safety specification to WorkSafe and Technical regulatory authorities later this year.



Latest Standards Updates

The Standard for "Radiant gas heaters" (AS/NZS 5263.1.4) was published on 13th October 2017. In conjunction with AS 5263.0, this Standard now replaces **both**:

- AS 4565-2004 "Radiant gas heaters for outdoor and non-residential indoor use"; and
- AS 4643-2007 "Overhead radiant tube gas heaters".

Accordingly, all Certifications for these appliances must now be updated to requirements of the new Standard. Please contact your Client Manager for more information.



DR AS 4631 (Limited flexibility connectors for gas) is out for public comment which will be ending on **27th December 2017**. If you would like to submit any comments, you may forward them to our Group Manager, Technical Operations, Mr Billy (Vasilios) Tabourlos [btavourlos@aga.asn.au], or directly through the Standards Australia website:

<https://sapc.standards.org.au/sapc/public/listOpenCommentingPublication.action>

Finally, AS 3645 (Essential requirements for gas equipment) has been updated and now published on the 19 September 2017.

