



*AGA NewsFlash*  
*Please forward to others within your organisation.*

## AGA NewsFlash

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### Scheme Rules for Gas Equipment Certification



The Australian states and territories administer legislation requiring gas appliances and gas carrying components and controls to be independently certified for compliance with requirements of applicable safety standards before they are offered for sale, sold or used in Australia. AGA has provided a gas equipment certification service to the industry since 1962 under the governance of ***'The Rules Governing The AGA Product Certification Scheme for Type Tested Gas Products'***. All Australian state and territory jurisdictions and the government of New Zealand recognise AGA gas equipment certification for regulatory purposes, however, as each state and territory jurisdiction has its own individual legislation for gas equipment, regulatory authorities have recognised the need to harmonise requirements across jurisdictions as far as is possible under the legislation of the respective states and territories. Accordingly, the gas technical regulators of Australia have promulgated a set of rules for the certification of gas equipment.

The document is titled "***Gas Equipment Certification Scheme - The Rules***" and can be downloaded from the AGA website [Click Here](#).

It is intended that *'The Rules'* will be applied by individual jurisdictions in an attempt to harmonise requirements across all states and territories.

In Victoria, Energy Safe Victoria has announced that it will adopt *'The Rules'* on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 and has advised that:

- All current certifications, and new certifications issued prior to 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, must comply with 'The Rules' by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020, and;
- All new certifications issued after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 must comply with 'The Rules'.

At this stage it is unclear when the other Australian state and territory jurisdictions will adopt 'The Rules' however, we understand that WorkSafe New Zealand will not be adopting the 'The Rules'.

In large part, the requirements set out in 'The Rules' mirror those set out in '**The Rules Governing The AGA Product Certification Scheme for Type Tested Gas Products**', however, there are some notable differences including those set out below:

- **Gas Compliance Mark (GCM)**

The GCM is a common badge or label and it will be mandatory in relevant jurisdictions once 'The Rules' have been adopted by the respective jurisdictions.

The Certificate Holder will be responsible for ensuring that the GCM is displayed adjacent to AGA Badge or AGA License Mark on gas appliances, however, it will not be a requirement for the GCM to be displayed on gas components.

Examples of acceptable GCM artwork are shown on the right. The inscription below the artwork will be either:

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND  
GAS SAFETY CERTIFICATION

OR

AUSTRALIA ONLY  
GAS SAFETY CERTIFICATION



Unlike the Australian (GCM), the New Zealand Gas Safety Compliance Label has the same artwork but **does not** include an inscription and can be obtained directly from the Energy Safety New Zealand website. The New Zealand Gas Safety Compliance Label **will not be accepted** by regulatory authorities in Australia.

For more information about the GCM, you can download a copy of the Gas Compliance Mark Style Guide from our website [Click Here](#)

- **Declaration of Conformity to Type**

This is a new requirement whereby the Certificate Holder must make a declaration that:

- a. Suitable systems are in place to ensure that *gas equipment* manufactured and supplied under coverage of an *AGA certificate* conforms in every respect to the *certified* design.
- b. The markings on the *gas equipment* are consistent with information set out on the *certificate* issued by AGA.
- c. The *gas equipment* meets the requirements of the standards to which it has been *certified*.
- d. The gas equipment is *safe* when normally used or *foreseeably misused*.

We recommend that you check and confirm that your Product Liability Insurance extends to cover '*foreseeable misuse*'.

- **Suspension & Cancellation of Certificates**

'*The Rules*' state that AGA will be required to cancel or suspend a certification in the following cases:

- a. A request by all *Technical Regulators*.
- b. The *gas equipment* is found to be modified from the *certified design*, and safety or compliance is not able to be established in a reasonable timeframe.
- c. Post certification surveillance is not completed for the *gas equipment* within an acceptable timeframe.
- d. Failure by the *certificate holder* to display the *GCM* and *AGA Badge or License Mark* in accordance with '*The Rules*'
- e. Failure of the *gas equipment* to comply with changes to requirements and standards within the required timeframe.

- **Changes in Standards**

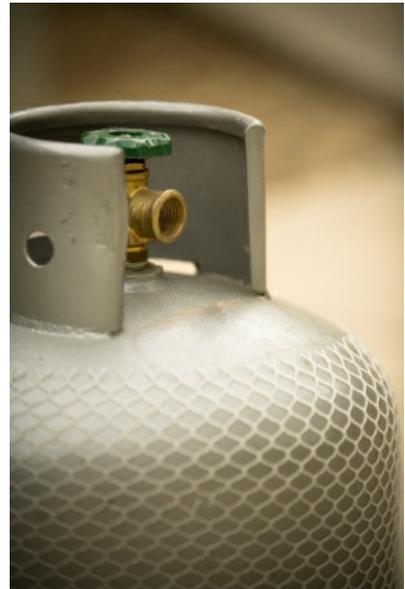
*Gas equipment* must comply with any new or amended requirements within 2 years of date of publication of the relevant standard and/or code, unless a specific time frame is specified within the standard.

If you have any questions about how these new regulatory requirements will affect your company, please contact your AGA Client Manager who will be pleased to assist.

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## Did you know?

AGA certifies LPG Cylinders for the Australian marketplace. 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 comply with regulatory requirements. 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 Bill Tabourlos.

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## Latest Standards Updates

### REMINDER:

As announced in our October 2017 NewsFlash 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.

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