

**GAS APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION of  
AUSTRALIA Inc.**

**ABN: 76 660 439 676**

**MINUTES OF THE FORTY NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT 1.15 PM ON WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST 2013  
AT 20 QUEENS ROAD MELBOURNE**

**ATTENDEES**

Andrew Creek (Chairman)	SIT Gas Controls
Gareth Jennings	Rheem Australia
Greg Ellis	Rinnai Australia
Peter Faase	GWA Heating & Cooling
Leon Bogers	Rinnai Australia
Anthony Edwards	Robert Bosch
Mark Schirmer	Comcarter
Chris Wealthy	AGA
Ian Forte	Electrolux Home Products
Dora Bettridge	VIPAC
Billy Tabourlos	AGA
Ross Jamieson	SIT Gas Controls
George Mitreski	Sampford IXL
Paul Bains	Comcater
Jack Rekdale	Techrite
Anubhav Anand	Techrite
Enzo Alfonsetti	ESV
Lesley Aitkin	Schott Australia
Steve Bensted	GWA Heating & Cooling
Celeste Camillo	GWA Heating & Cooling
Colin Poulter	System Controls
Paul Allwood	Seeley International
Colin Bickell	AGA

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Rod Brutlag	GAMAA Chief Executive
Jon Onley	GAMAA Executive Officer/Secretary

**APOLOGIES**

Chris Blogg	Rinnai Australia
Chris Devlin	AGA
Matt Sexton	Rheem Australia
Craig Buchanan	Climate Technologies
Rebecca Searcy	VIPAC
Stephen Cairns	Sampford IXL
Jeffrey Elliott	Focus Lifestyle Products
Ian Jones	VIPAC
Alan Law	Rheem Australia
Greg O'Connell	Moffat

## **Probity Compliance**

The Executive Officer confirmed that the meeting had been conducted in accordance with the GAMAA's protocols on Compliance with Part IV of the Trade Practices Act and that the Standing Agenda item on Trade Practices compliance had also been reviewed and its contents observed throughout the meeting by those present. Further that the minutes of this meeting duly record that the activities of the meeting were conducted in accordance with the Protocols and in compliance with the Act.

## **1. Welcome and Announcements**

The Chair welcome attendees to the 49<sup>th</sup>GAMAAAGM 2013

## **2. Approval of minutes of previous Annual General Meeting – 22 August 2012**

The minutes were accepted as true and correct

Moved: Ross Jamieson

Seconded:Mark Schirmer - Carried

## **Matters arising from the previous minutes:**

No matters arising

## **3. Financial Report**

The Executive Officer presented the audited financial report for the year to 30 June 2013The financial report was accepted.

Moved: Paul Allwood

Seconded:Ian Forte- Carried

## **4. Appointment of Auditor**

The Chair announced thatPaul Fox – Super Audit Servicesas the Association's Auditor for financial year to end 30 June 2014.

Moved:Gareth Jennings

Seconded: George Mitreski- Carried

## **5. Presidents Report**

GAMAA Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday 14 August 2013  
President's Report.

Members of GAMAA, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am pleased to present to you an overview of the activities of GAMAA during the preceding 12 months.

Your elected council members continue to work together for the benefit of all members, and the maintenance and improvement of our position in this important industry.

### **New councilor**

We are pleased to accept the nomination of Mr Peter Faase as Council representative for GWA Dux Water Heaters. Peter has considerable experience in the water heater market, having worked for Rheem Australia and Rheem New Zealand in recent years.

### **Council Initiatives**

At the GAMAA Council meeting in Sydney during February this year, a list of issues confronting us was formulated. This listing was then prioritised, grading from most important issue to least. Each issue was then assigned to a councilor to work with Chief Executive Rod Brutlag and to progress to a strategy and way forward. These matters have been discussed regularly and a report should be available in the near future.

### **GAMAA representatives to AG committees.**

GAMAA is a significant "Nominating Organisation" to Standards Australia Gas Industry Sector. We currently have 38 representatives working on 17 Standards committees, and many are representing us on more than one committee. This is a very large contribution to the success of our industry, and we must thank our member companies and the individual "volunteers" who continue to strive to achieve our goals of safety, efficiency and world standard performance.

### **Overseas representation - GASEX Bali October 2012**

Mr Greg Ellis, Managing Director Rinnai Australia, was nominated by GAMAA to AGIT to Chair the Manufacturers session at this forum. This Intervention was greatly appreciated and GAMAA was extremely well received. Greg presented a very detailed report on his return, and provides us with a great insight into global and our regional affairs.

### **NZ Gas Industry Forum Rotorua October 2012**

I was extremely grateful to be GAMAA's representative at this Forum. After a long association with the Gas Industry in NZ, and as a corporate member of GANZ, it was a pleasure to reconnect with a number of "old hands", and meet many new members. The structure of Industry Associations has changed dramatically in NZ in recent years, and the return of regular annual Forums is a positive development. Of particular interest is the introduction of new regulations for Gas Appliance approvals, and Installation requirements.

### **Gas Technical Regulators Committee**

The GTRC continues to press forward to implement a new certification scheme for gas appliances and components. Over the past year, Scheme Rules and Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) requirements have been developed. The result will be an approval to apply a Regulators Compliance Mark to an appliance. Complications have arisen and the RCM will now be a "GCM", and NZ have commenced the scheme using a different model. Although the "Scheme" is technically in force from July 1 2013 in Australia, we still have not officially seen the documents. All manufacturers and suppliers will have 12 months to register on the GTRC website. GAMAA has been and continues to work with the GTRC to make certain the scheme will work properly for all appliance manufacturers.

### **E3 Committee**

The Equipment Energy Efficiency Committee is responsible to the Federal Government DRET (Department of Resources Energy and Tourism), formerly DCCEE and AGO. Initially MEPS to apply to Gas Appliances was to be administered by individual State and Territories Government. This implementation proved to be difficult, and so MEPS became regulated under the Federal Greenhouse & Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) Act and was implemented on 1 October 2012. Again, registration is required within 12 months of this date. Implementation is now under way; however, registering on the GEMS website remains problematic. The definition of product "families" remains contentious, but seems to be administered to maximise income for the

administering body. GAMAA has several members who attend the E3 Review Committee meetings and continues to advocate for a fair outcome.

### **Standards Australia**

Australian Standards or Gas Codes for gas appliances and components were originally written under the auspices of the Australian Gas Association. GAMAA was the significant provider of technical expertise to the AGA. In 2003 AGA passed responsibility for this function to Standards Australia. The AGA and ESAA (Electrical Supply Association of Australia), combined to create ENA (Energy Networks Association), and AGA Certification Services remained as a separate entity.

GAMAA continues as a significant Nominating Organisation to SA Gas sector. Under a new management structure for the gas sector, Standards Australia has engaged in dialogue to further develop relationship and Pathways with the Nominating Organisations. GAMAA will continue to participate in the development of this better working relationship.

### **Australian Gas Industry Trust**

GAMAA is a foundation member of the AGIT education trust fund. AGIT assumed responsibility for Australia's Charter membership of the International Gas Union (IGU). A very significant sum of money was donated to the AGA after organising the LNG12 Forum in 1998. As AGA became ENA, a separate Trust Fund (AGIT) was established to continue the work of administering Gas Speak, Overseas Study Tours, and other funding approved projects. AGIT has successfully tendered for the LNG18 Forum to be held in Perth in 2016. Gas Speak will be held in Canberra in September and is a great forum for GAMAA members.

I would like to thank all members of GAMAA for your participation and particularly those members of the Standards Committees who work tirelessly for the benefit of all. You are the backbone of our industry. To the members who actively support our Technical Committee meetings, I also extend our sincere thanks. I also extend our thanks to our member company's management who continue to support the work of GAMAA. Your Councilors have dedicated many hours to ensuring that our relevance continues to grow and they continue to address the matters that are important to GAMAA members.

Our Chief Executive Rod Brutlag continues to oversee all of our activities conscientiously and wisely. His dedication to producing our weekly journal Gas Connections is appreciated by all.

Thanks also to the Ai Group for the professional administrative support.

Lastly, I would like to thank Jon Onley our Executive Officer and Secretary for his constant and reliable attention to details in all of our deliberations.

GAMAA has I believe conducted its affairs and involvement in our industry matters actively and professionally and I am sure that we have made strong impressions on those with whom we have engaged.

Sincerely

Andrew Creek

26 July 2013

