

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

ABN: 76 660 439 676

**MINUTES OF THE 50TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT 1.15 PM ON THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2014
AT 20 QUEENS ROAD MELBOURNE**

ATTENDEES

Andrew Creek (Chairman)	SIT Gas Controls
Gareth Jennings	Rheem Australia
Leon Bogers	Rinnai Australia
Peter Faase	GWA Heating & Cooling
Anthony Edwards	Robert Bosch
Ian Forte	Electrolux Home Products
Rebecca Searcy	VIPAC
Ross Jamieson	SIT Gas Controls
George Mitreski	Sampford IXL
Paul Baini	Comcater
Paul Allwood	Seeley International
Richard Calaby	Climate Technologies
Dora Bettridge	VIPAC

IN ATTENDANCE

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

APOLOGIES

Chris Blogg	Rinnai Australia
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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 50th GAMAA AGM 2014

2. Approval of minutes of previous Annual General Meeting –14 AUGUST 2013

The minutes were accepted as true and correct

Moved: Rebecca Searcy

Seconded: Paul Allwood- Carried

Matters arising from the previous minutes:

No matters arising

3. Financial Report

The Chair presented the audited financial report for the year to 30 June 2014. The financial report was accepted.

Moved: Anthony Edwards

Seconded: Ian Forte- Carried

4. Appointment of Auditor

The Chair announced that Paul Fox – Super Audit Services as the Association's Auditor for financial year to end 30 June 2015.

Moved: Ross Jamieson

Seconded: Peter Faase- Carried

5. Presidents Report

GAMAA Annual General Meeting

Thursday 4 September 2014

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. The last year has been incredibly busy and rewarding in many areas. 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 Paul Bains as Council representative for Commercial Catering. Paul has taken over from Mark Schirmer, and will represent Commercial catering interests. We also have invited Richard Calaby who will replace Craig Buchanan., representing Climate Technologies to join the Council.

We must also record the retirement of Jeff Elliott from Focus Lifestyle Products, who has represented the Barbecue manufacturers within the gas industry. Jeffrey was a valuable contributor to GAMAA Council over the last 5 years and we thank him and wish him well for his future retirement. We are researching for a possible replacement but the BBQ industry is a totally different scene since we invited the barbecue manufacturers association to join us.

Council Initiatives

GAMAA Council members have created a list of issues confronting us. This listing was prioritised, and has been refined as:

1. **GEMS (Greenhouse Emissions Minimum Standards).** -To implement strategies to change the GEMS Bill 2012 to protect consumers from dangerous/sub-par products in an administratively logical and least burdensome manner, under the direction of the appropriate Federal Minister.
2. **To have Gas recognised as a reliable, safe, economical and green house friendly transitional energy source.** – To monitor the reputation of gas as a premier viable source of energy and to take singular and or joint action(s) to maintain/enhance that image of gas.
3. **The CAB rules for Gas Appliance and Component Certification for Australia as proposed by the GTRC.** – To work with the GTRC to bring successful outcomes for GAMAA Members regarding the proposed GTRC CAB (Conformity Assessment Body) rules.
4. **Finding new sources of income for GAMAA.** – To identify potential sources of non – subscription revenue and implement programs to produce feasible options.
5. **GAMAA membership expansion.** – To identify companies that would benefit from GAMAA services and design and implement recruitment programs.
6. **Addressing leisure product (barbecues, etc.) issues.**- To identify manufacturing and regulatory issues facing manufacturers.
7. **International Standards units - measures to apply these to Australian standards.** To conduct programs that resolve issues in connection with the introduction of SI standards different from current standards.
8. **The sale of second hand gas appliances.** –To design programs to help prevent the non-safe sale of second hand gas appliances in Australia.

GAMAA representatives on Standards committees.

GAMAA is a significant “Nominating Organisation” to Standards Australia. We 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.

We are represented on the Standards Australia Gas Sector Forum by Rod Brutlag and myself. This Forum reviews existing standards and necessary revisions, and the process for creating new standards.

We are also represented on the Standards Australia Gas Sector Strategy Committee, which looks at the necessary prioritisation of work and the forward direction. 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.

Overseas representation

I was pleased to be GAMAA's representative at the NZ Gas Industry Forum Auckland in October 2013. 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 NZ regulations for Gas Appliance approvals, and Installation requirements.

Gas Technical Regulators Committee

The issues that had arisen regarding the gas compliance scheme since my report last year have not yet been resolved. The NZ Government "launched" a Gas Compliance Mark scheme early and at a time when the Australia/New Zealand compliance mark had not been fully agreed. While the scheme in Australia is technically in force from July 1 2013 in Australia, we still have not seen the officially revised documentation. GTRC efforts to introduce a set of scheme rules which apply to CAB's (Conformity Assessment Bodies) for certification of gas appliances and components has stalled because the GCM (Gas Compliance Mark) badge adopted in NZ cannot be used in Australia. The Chairman of the GTRC, Mr Paul Bonsak of ESV, has recently handed the chairmanship to Steve Matheson from Queensland.

As a separate issue, GTRC is also considering the adoption of SI units only on all components. After two years of strong debate, and clear evidence of considerable cost imposition on all component suppliers, no final solution has been reached. Recent contact with the NMI (National Measurement Institute) has revealed that "other" measurements can be accepted as "Australian Units", and GAMAA will make application for the acceptance of other units which are widely used in Europe and North America.

E3 Review Committee

The Equipment Energy Efficiency Committee (E3) is now responsible to the Federal Government Department of Industry. MEPS became regulated under Federal (Greenhouse & Energy Minimum Standards) or GEMS and was proclaimed on 1 October 2012. Compulsory Registration was required within 12 months of this date, however, registering on the GEMS website remains problematic and the definition of product families remains contentious.

The E3 Review Committee is constituted by other Industry Associations as well as GAMAA, and finding common ground was always difficult. It was a brainwave of your Chief Executive Rod Brutlag last November that changed forever the direction of the E3 Review Committee and the consolidation of our efforts. Rod invited all of the trade association members to a private breakfast, prior to an E3 Review Committee meeting and proposed the formation of a Trade Associations Group (TAG) to concentrate our efforts. Since that meeting, TAG has actively engaged with the Manager of the Department, inviting him to meetings to discuss our concerns. In return the Manager of Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) has responded by meeting with our group on several occasions. This process has resulted in very clear objectives, while also allowing a forum to express our concerns. GAMAA is pleased to have facilitated this sharp focus on the issues that concern our Industry.

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). AGIT has successfully tendered for the IGU's LNG18 conference to be held in Perth in 2016. The Organising Committee is in full flight with the task of coordinating this very large event.

AGIT is actively pursuing options for funding training in all areas of Gas Utilisation. As GAMAA we have provided several significant opportunities for consideration by the board. Gas Speak 2014 was just concluded in Canberra yesterday. The switch of venue from Old Parliament House to the new Portrait Gallery has been a great success. As has been the case since the event started in 1982, this event has again proved to be a huge success for all participants.

Conclusion

I would like to thank all members of GAMAA for your participation, particularly to those members of the Standards Committees who work tirelessly for the benefit of all. You are the backbone of our industry. And to those 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 we remain relevant, and continue to address the matters that are important.

Our Chief Executive Rod Brutlag continues to oversee all of our activities conscientiously and wisely.

The dedication to writing our regular journal *Gas Connections* is appreciated by all. Thanks also to AiGroup for the professional administrative support. Lastly, I would like to thank Jon Onley our Executive Officer 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

3rd August 2014

6. Election of Councilors

Nominations for the GAMAA Council have been received and as the number did not exceed the number allocated therefore no election is required. The Executive Officer presented the following list of councilors who have nominated for the Executive Council:

