

GAMAA Minutes

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

11/09/2015

GAS APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

MINUTES OF A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT AI GROUP

11 September 2015 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM

1. 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.

2. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair commenced the meeting at 10.00 am.

Andrew advised his disappointment to the lack of GAMAA representation at this year's Gas Speak and encouraged all members to consider sending a representative next year.

Present

Andrew Creek (Chairman)	SITGas
Ross Jamieson	SITGas
Leon Bogers	Rinnai Australia
Chris Blogg	Rinnai Australia
Steve Bensted	Brivis
Chris Burgess	Dux
Billy Tabourlos	AGA
Paul Hodolic	Keefer Bros
Alan Law	Rheem Aust
Lok Tam	IAPMO R & T Oceana
Anubhav Anand	Techrite
Anson Du	IAPMO R & T Oceana
Paul Baini	Comcater
Richard Calaby	Climate Technologies
Michael Llewellyn	APA
Dora Bettridge	VIPAC

Apologies

Wes Zabielski	Moffat
Anthony Edwards	Bosch
Graeme Peterson	DUX Manufacturing
Michael Llewellyn	APA
Rebecca Searcy	SAI Global
Matthew Low	Aquamax

Colin Poulter
Darren Ford
Paul Allwood

System Control Engineering
Real Flame
Seeley International

In Attendance

Jon Onley

GAMAA Executive Officer

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Technical Committee Meeting held on 7 July 2015 were confirmed.

Moved: Alan Law

Seconded: Leon Bogers

MATTERS ARISING

Nil

4. AG-001 MEETING -3&4 September Sydney

A representative from the Young Leaders Program attended the meeting – Tyler Mason ESV

Agenda items and active projects:

Ref. (Item no. from Minutes)	Action Item No.	Issue	Action by
3.1.1	01	Flame Safeguard on BBQ. Chairman will initiate the process by sending a letter to all members, GTRC, GAMAA and CABs.	Trevor Tucker
4.1	02	Add items on AS 5263.0 revision list for Area heater (i) Remove wheel, (ii) Cylinder separation, (iii) Emission level from 0.02 to 0.007, (iv) Include OSD.	Trevor Tucker
4.2	03	Add items on AS 5263.0 revision list for Table top patio heater: (i) Introduce ODS, (ii) Emission level from 0.02 to 0.007, (iii) Generic requirements regarding means of restraint to manage stability of the cylinder and protection of hose.	Trevor Tucker
4.3	04	Add items on AS 5263.0 revision list to consider appliances like fire pit.	Trevor Tucker
4.7	05	Add items on AS 5263.0 revision list, (i) Cartridge Cooker Temperature Hazards Testing, (ii) Over pressure protection Billy and Martha will prepare the MOTS based on AG-001 review	Trevor Tucker Billy Tabourlos
4.8	06	GAMAA letter for Gas heater efficiency and energy labelling	Ahshanur Rashid
4.9	07	Combustion testing using various flue lengths—Chris W and Billy T to provide draft for MOT	Billy Tabourlos Chris Wealthy
4.9	08	Add items on AS 5263.0 revision list—Combustion testing using various flue lengths.	Trevor Tucker

Discussion items

5.1 Active projects (Update from AG-001-02)

5.1.1 Update from respective Drafting Leader on Public Comment and Ballot Comment for:

(i) AS 5263.1.1 (AS 4551) — Domestic gas cooking appliances - Flame failure by July 2017-Cooking Tests are to be removed from the testing requirements.

(ii) AS 5263.1.2 (AS 4552) — Gas Fired Water Heaters - Comment from WA on small safety issues.

(iii) AS 5263.1.3 (AS 4553) — Domestic Gas Space Heating Appliances - draft required by 15 October.

(iv) AS 5263.1.7 (AS 4557) — Domestic Gas Barbecues – Flame Failure date for implementation is still a WIP (may not happen...a survey of BBQ manufacturers did not see the value in fitting the devices). No performance tests to be applied to BBQs.

- (v) AS 5263.1.6 (AS 4556) — Gas ducted air heaters (Open for Public Comment - update only)
(vi) AS 5263.1.8 (AS 4558) — Decorative gas log and other fuel effect appliances (Open for Public Comment - update only)

5.1.2 Revision of AS 5263.0-2013 (AS/NZS 5263.0-20XX)

- Update on the major revision items included (From Drafting Leader: Trevor Tucker)
- List of revision items, track change version of AS NZS 5263.0 is available on HUB, under National/Projects/ASNZS 5263.0. Direct Hub Link:

<https://ecommittee.standards.org.au/livellink/livellink?func=ll&objId=1042086&objAction=browse&viewType=1>

5.2 Other discussion items

- (a) New project proposal—Project prioritisation submission dates and deadlines Round 11: Monday 10 August
- (b) AS 2658 and AS 5263.0 - Discussion continues at AG-001 level for direction and strategies (Item 4.7 of Meeting Minutes No. 36).
- (c) Oven door temperature
- (d) Hose connection requirements for freestanding gas cookers
- (e) GTRC Technical Bulletin—For AG-001 note (information) only - Discussions covered: area heaters & outdoor patio heaters; direct fired heaters; portable cookers with cartridges.

Next meeting 14& 15 December in Melbourne

6. OTHER STANDARDS AUSTRALIA COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. AG-001 - Gas Appliances –meeting was held 2 & 3 July in Sydney– notes in point 5 above.
- b. AG-001-03 - Commercial Catering Gas Equipment –has not met – **MOVE TO INACTIVE**
- c. AG-006 - Gas Installation Committee – Leon reported – Meeting scheduled 10,11 &12 November in NZ – key issue to address an error in the technical contentment – as well other discussion topics include:
 - Clarification around clearance around grease surfaces
 - Cookers in combined living and sleeping areas - lack of ventilation
 - WG to revise appendix “R” spilling from space heaters – adopt a smoke-match test
- d. AG-013 - Components used for Gas Appliances and Equipment – Attempts continue to reform this committee – Robert Knight unable to continue as Chair
- e. CS-028 – Solar Water Heaters& Air Conditioners – last meeting in May – developing a new standard (rewritten in 5 separate parts).Ratings for Solar Water Heaters is being evaluated. Zoned Energy Rating Label (ZERL) energy rating system was discussed. Next meeting schedule for October
- f. WS-026 Valves Primary for use in warm & Hot Water Systems – New Standard for thermostatic mixing taps: AS 1357.1 Minor amendment to permit some values to have alternative drain connections – e.g. push-fit type connections (copper)
- g. Other
Flue-liners for space heaters referred to AG 006 from AG 001.
WS 014 – active in changing plumbing standards - in particular part 4 – ABCB draft which will be called up in NCC 2016

EE 001 – design of reverse cycle systems/commissioning. Public comment in Feb 2016

EL 20 – Has not met but a WG has been established. Leon is leading the drafting.

Standard to be written based on being technology neutral.

INACTIVE COMMITTEES:

AG-010 - Natural Gas Quality Specifications

CH-007 - Vitreous Enamel Finishes

CH-038 - Liquefied Petroleum Gas – Composition

CS-007 - Guards for Heating Appliances

AG - Working Group 11

AG-012 - Gas Appliances - Quality of Servicing – work transferred to AG 006

ME-015 - Storage & Handling - LP Gases now active - next meeting 19 November
managing LPG odour in the gas supply chain/cylinders

7. SI UNITS & STANDARDS AUSTRALIA (NMI) UPDATES

Ross Jamieson reported that GAMAA was represented at a NMI/Standards Australia Stakeholder Meeting 2 September Sydney.

The meeting was hosted by Standards Australia where a number of Industry stakeholder's met to discuss the best way forward to solve the pressure marking requirements of gas components.

This followed on from the forum hosted by GAMAA on 27 August where the pressure marking requirements of components were discussed and the position that would be taken by GAMAA to this forum.

Presentations were made by GAMAA, National Measurement Institute, Energy Safe Victoria and Department of Fair Trading (NSW). The presentations were followed by a round table discussion to find common ground for all stakeholders.

All participants understand that whilst there have been no instances of confusion between different units historically there is some concern that there will always be the opportunity in the future, this will be unavoidable regardless of the marking.

As a result of GAMAA's submission to the NMI the forum was provided with preliminary advice from NMI that the National Measurement Regulations 1999 may not apply to the marking of the component, but only to the measurement of gas pressure.

While the stakeholders await the determination from NMI, it has been decided that projects with Standards Australia will be placed on hold, and in general the various state regulators will maintain the status quo.

GAMAA would like to thank Jonathan Russell from Standards Australia for the initiative to bring all the stakeholders together to discuss this matter, and for hosting this meeting.

A subsequent meeting with NMI has been organised for Wednesday 23rd September with Gas Energy Australia (GEA) and GAMAA to provide further information.

8. E3 COMMITTEE UPDATE

Leon reported that both Andrew Creek and Chris Blogg met with Sarah Williams earlier this week. Sarah informed that there had been a restructure within her area but suggested no changes would be made to their current list of issues. Sarah indicated her disappointment with the current delays in the Standards Australia processes. It seems Sarah is attempting/planning to by-pass some of Standards Australia processes.

There was also a discussion the decorative gas heating appliances standards - no action resulted from this discussion. Another Technical based meeting with Sarah is planned for October.

9. AG 001 FLAME FAILURE SAFEGUARDS

Ross Jamieson reports that on 1 July 2017 all gas cooking appliances (potentially apart from BBQs) will require Flame failure devices.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

ABCB – Leon reported the ABCB has distributed a draft paper. Leon's comments on the paper are:

- a. The proposal to introduce a Gasfitting Code of Australia (GCA) under the NCC is not supported under OBPR & COAG guidelines for best practice regulation for the following reasons:
 - i. it has not been demonstrated that a current policy problem exists. The single aspect that the ABCB regards as a policy problem, having to source multiple documents which industry disputes, is not addressed by introduction of a GCA.
 - ii. It has not been demonstrated that there are problems with the current state and territory based regulatory regime for gasfitting.
 - iii. ABCB convey that AS/NZS5601 would benefit from future amendment, and propose to introduce a "formal process" and "committees" to facilitate this. It is unclear why this is needed, given that a long established Standards Australia committee and process already exist to facilitate such ongoing review and amendment.
 - iv. Introduction of a GCA is likely to result in a net cost to industry or, at best, be cost neutral to industry. It is unlikely to result in net savings as stated by the ABCB.
 - v. The current regulatory regime already optimises productivity by allowing practitioners the choice of either "deemed to comply" or "performance based" solutions as appropriate. Introduction of a GCA will logically not optimise this productivity any further.
 - vi. Introduction of a GCA would increase rather than reduce the regulatory burden on business and other stakeholders as it adds an additional level of bureaucracy and documentation.
 - b. Notwithstanding (a), if a GCA is to be introduced:
 - (i) it will affect stakeholders other than gasfitters, including appliance and component manufacturers, and the nature, extent and potential impacts of the proposed changes require much more detailed deliberation and consultation with all stakeholders whether through a RIS or other mechanism.
 - (ii) it should only happen if all State and Territories commit to participate in it simultaneously and all GTRC members agree for current GTRC publications, including Technical Guidance Bulletins, to be fully absorbed under the GCA to ensure certainty and consistency for all stakeholders including industry.
 - (iii) Reference to manufacturer's instructions at all levels of GCA documentation and in all referenced Standards **must** be maintained if they contain installation, commissioning, servicing and removal instructions unique to an appliance or component.
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11.ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed at 12.40pm

Next meeting: TBC - Likely to be 16 December - (may be positioned to fit in with the AG 001 meeting 14& 15 December which will be held in Melbourne).
