



GAS APPLIANCES TECHNICAL GUIDANCE BULLETIN

Bulletin number: 006

Bulletin Date: 07/10/2016

Author: T.Mason

Product Type: Radiant gas heaters less than 1.8m in height for outdoor use and non-residential indoor use.

Table-top heaters for outdoor use and non-residential indoor use.

Relevant Standard/s: AS 4565-2004 (Incorporating Amendment No. 1)

Relevant Clause/s: 1.2, 2.8.1, 4.2, 4.3, 6.2, 7.1.9.1

Subject: Area heaters and table top patio heaters

Guidance to be provided: An area heater is defined thus:

“An outdoor space heating appliance other than a table top appliance where the heat source and combustion product outlet are less than 1.8m from the ground.”

A table top heater is defined thus:

A radiant gas heater that is a table top appliance.

NOTE: The requirements specified below do not apply in NSW. NSW Fair Trading has issued a prohibition order relating to area heaters that are defined as a ‘flue-less’ portable outdoor heater incorporating a liquid petroleum gas container mounted integrally within a heater casing located at the base of the unit and with the radiant heating surface or combustion product outlet is less than 1.8 metres from the ground and not complying with the Australian Standard 4565:2004. Suppliers who would like to sell these appliances in NSW will need to contact Fair Trading NSW to apply for an exemption to the prohibition order.

An area heater or table top heater must not be a *mobile appliance*. An area heater or table top heater must not have provision for the fitting of wheels or castors.

An area heater that incorporates a cylinder compartment must have the cylinder compartment permanently separated from the combustion area to prevent ignition of escaping gas within the cylinder compartment.

For combustion analysis an area heater or table top heater must be considered as an appliance for non-residential indoor use, regardless of whether it is marked for outdoor use only, and should comply with Clause 6.2 ‘Combustion’. This reduces the allowed CO/CO₂ ratio from 0.02 to 0.007, as is applied to non-residential indoor appliances.

Area heaters are to be marked for “Outdoor use only”.

Area heaters and table top heaters must include a safety shut off system and comply with the following:

This bulletin provides technical guidance from the Gas Technical Regulators to Conformity Assessment Bodies that are JASANZ accredited for the certification of gas appliances required to comply with AS3645. This technical guidance is provided where the technical requirements or test methodologies from current technical standards are inadequate or can be misinterpreted. This bulletin is valid until such time as the relevant technical standard is revised or amended accordingly.



Area heaters and table top heaters designed for outdoor use must also comply with the following requirements of Clause 7.1.9 which are currently only applicable to table top heaters for non-residential indoor use:

- 7.1.9.1 Automatic shut-off in a vitiated atmosphere
- 7.1.9.2 CO Concentration in a vitiated atmosphere
- 7.1.9.3 Operation at a reduced inlet pressure
- 7.1.9.4 Safety system to be non-adjustable

Compliance to Clause 7.1.9 shall be determined by the following methods of tests:

- 1. B35 M.O.T. 7.1.9.1-03 Safety system test
- 2. B36 M.O.T. 7.1.9.2-03 Concentration of CO in a vitiated atmosphere
- 3. B37 M.O.T. 7.1.9.3-03 Combustion test at reduced appliance inlet pressure

Note: When assessing a surface combustion burner to either (1) or (2) above, the burner should be operated at the minimum turn-down rate.

Reason:

Clause 2.8.1, AS 4565-2004, currently prohibits appliances that do not have radiant heating surfaces or combustion product outlets above 1.8m from the ground from incorporating an integral gas cylinder.

Concerns have been identified regarding table top appliances that are not adequately covered

Action(s):

Conformity Assessment Bodies are to ensure that the methods of laboratory tests are conducted in accordance with the procedures set out above when assessing this product type for certification.

Conformity Assessment Bodies are to create a new and unique certification number for certifications that have been issued in conjunction with this bulletin. A note should be added to the related entry in the GTRC National Certification Database indicating that the certification complies with this bulletin.

Transition:

- 1. For all new applications for certification made after the date of this bulletin, this bulletin must be adhered to immediately.
- 2. For existing certifications and applications received prior to the date of this bulletin, a minimum 12 month period has been granted to allow suppliers and manufacturers to modify the products and amend their certifications. Certifications and existing applications must comply with this bulletin by the effective date of this bulletin.

Result:

- Area heaters and table top heaters are to be assessed to AS 4565 along with the requirements specified in this technical guidance bulletin.

Proposed Revision/s to Standard/s:

Refer to technical guidance above.

To be included in the proposed AS/NZS 5263 series in the future.

This bulletin has been endorsed by all Australian jurisdictions.

Effective Date: 31/03/2017

This bulletin provides technical guidance from the Gas Technical Regulators to Conformity Assessment Bodies that are JASANZ accredited for the certification of gas appliances required to comply with AS3645. This technical guidance is provided where the technical requirements or test methodologies from current technical standards are inadequate or can be misinterpreted. This bulletin is valid until such time as the relevant technical standard is revised or amended accordingly.