



**GAS APPLIANCES**  
**TECHNICAL GUIDANCE BULLETIN**

**Bulletin number:** [ 009 ]

**Bulletin Date:** [ 1 / 1 / 2017 ]

**Product Type:** [ Unflued portable water heaters ]

**Relevant Standard/s:** [ AS 2658 – 2008 (Incorporating Amendment Nos. 1, 2 &3) ]

**Relevant Clause/s:** [ Section 8: Portable water heaters for outdoor use ]

**Subject:** [ Portable water heaters ]

**Guidance to be provided:** [ Portable water heaters certified to AS 2658 must comply with the following:

1. Portable water heaters must not include means or instructions for mounting or connection to a fixed piping system for water or gas.

Note: Water heaters intended for mounting or installation to a building, vehicle or other structures are within the scope of AS 4552 or AS/NZS 5263.1.2.

2. Portable water heaters must be fitted with a tilt switch so that, in the event of the appliance being knocked over or tipped in any direction beyond an angle of 45° from the vertical, all gas to the burner(s) shall be shut off.
3. Portable water heaters must incorporate all components necessary to enable the appliance to operate, including any water inlet pump, hot water outlet fitting assemblies, gas inlet connection assembly. These components may be assembled separately, but must be supplied as part of the appliance.
4. The requirements of Clause 8.8.2 apply. Appliances must comply with the requirements of Clause 2.15 or shut down safely when tested with the flueway terminal progressively closed, or, in the case of appliances fitted with a flueway terminal guard, the top surface of the guard is totally blocked.
5. Portable water heaters must not incorporate a means or instructions for connection of a flue.
6. When operated at normal test gas pressure, the ratio of the concentration of carbon monoxide to that of carbon dioxide in the products of combustion must not exceed 0.01.
7. When subjected to B41 M.OT. 8.13 – Rain and shower water resistance, AS 2658 – 2008 (Amdt. 3), portable water heaters must:
  - a) function normally or shut down safely during the simulated rain test(s);
  - b) function normally during the shower test,
  - c) ignite normally after being subjected to a simulated rain test; and,
  - d) show no evidence of damage or malfunctioning of any part or any evidence of water from the simulated rain storm or shower accumulating within the appliance.

**Note: The rain test applies irrespective of any markings or instructions stating that the appliance be protected from rain** ]

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.

**Reason:** It has come to the attention of members of the Gas Technical Regulators Committee that there are several safety hazards posed by the use and misuse of this product type.

One example of the identified hazards is the installation of portable appliances to vehicles, trolleys or structures; for example –



**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 maximum 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 within 12 months of the date of this bulletin.

**Result:** That the certifying bodies and test laboratories adopt the technical guidance above in order to ensure safety of this type of product.

**Proposed Revision/s to Standard/s:**  
Refer to technical guidance above.

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