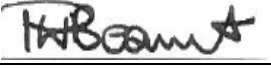


Type A Certifiers

Code of Practice for persons appointed to certify
Individual Type A Gas Devices

Version	Date	Author		Approved	
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Scope

This document has been developed as a Code of Practice for persons approved (“appointed”) under s.733(1)(a)(ii) of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* (P&G Act) to approve the supply, installation or use of Type A Gas Devices.

Persons appointed to approve *Individual Type A Gas Devices* in Queensland are required to comply with this document as a condition of their authorisation.

Further information on *Individual Type A Gas Devices* and *gas work* can be obtained from the Government's website through the Business and Industry Portal (BIP): <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/>

Legislation

What is a certifier?

Under s733 of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* (P&G Act) all *Type A gas devices* must be *approved* before they may be supplied, installed or used.

Section 733 (1)(a)(ii) of the P&G Act provides for a person or body to be appointed by the *Chief Inspector* as someone who is permitted to approve Type A devices.

For the purposes of this Code of Practice a person who is appointed to approve individual Type A devices is referred to as a *certifier*.

A certifier's appointment to approve individual Type A devices may be subject to conditions which include that the *certifier* must:

- (i) Comply with this Code of Practice
- (ii) Comply with the P&G Act
- (iii) Comply with the *Rules*
- (i) Obtain and maintain registration with the *Device Standards Body* and carry out any professional development and technical training required by the *Device Standards Body* as a condition of that registration

A *certifier* who meets those requirements may approve an *Individual Type A Gas Device* (whether new, second-hand, repaired, altered or modified) where that device complies with the essential safety requirements listed in appendix 1.

What is a Type A gas device?

Section 724 of the P&G Act provides the definition of a *Type A gas device*.

- (1) A **gas device** (type A) is a device used or designed or intended for use for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2), and prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) For subsection (1), the purposes are—
 - (a) for production of heat, light or power using fuel gas; or
 - (b) for refrigeration for which fuel gas is the fuel; or
 - (c) as a propellant.

Section 6A of the P&G Regulation prescribes each device mentioned in schedule 6 as a *Type A gas device*.

Schedule 6 Gas Devices (type A)

Note: A device mentioned in this schedule is a gas device (type A) only if it is used or designed or intended for use for a purpose mentioned in section 724(2) of the Act. See section 724(1) of the Act.

- the following types of commercial catering gas equipment—
 - atmospheric steamers
 - barbecue grillers
 - boiling water units
 - chinese cooking tables
 - food warmers including bain-marie
 - fryers
 - open and closed top boiling tables
 - ovens
 - pasta cookers
 - re-thermalisers
 - salamanders, grillers and toasters
 - solid grill plates and griddles
 - stockpots and brat pans

- decorative gas log appliances and similar appliances
- domestic gas cooking appliances
- domestic gas refrigerators
- domestic outdoor gas barbeques
- indirect gas-fired ducted air-heaters
- gas air conditioners with the capacity to consume no more than 500MJ in an hour
- gas fired water heaters for hot water supply or central heating
- gas laundry dryers
- gas pool heaters
- gas space heating appliances
- LP gas portable and mobile appliances
- LPG mobile industrial direct fired air heaters
- overhead radiant tube gas heaters
- portable gas generators with the capacity to consume no more than 500MJ in an hour
- radiant gas heaters for outdoor and non-residential use

New, mass produced Type A gas devices (appliances) intended for supply, installation and use in Australia are assessed and approved under a *type test scheme* administered by nationally recognised *Conformity Assessment Bodies* (CAB's). However, in cases of low quantities, second hand or modified appliances, device approval by a *certifier* is an alternative option for maintaining an acceptable level of public safety.

What is an Individual Type A Gas Device?

An *Individual Type A Gas Device* is an appliance that meets the definition in section 724(1) of the P&G Act for a gas device (type A), but may not be eligible for assessment and approval under a CAB administered *type test scheme*. The *Individual Type A Gas Device* approval scheme (the scheme) was developed as an alternative to the national *type test scheme*. The scheme was never conceived nor intended as an alternative in the case of large quantity mass produced appliances. The scheme should be applied in specific scenarios.

In particular the following examples are considered scenarios where assessment and approval may be appropriate under the *Individual Type A Gas Device* approval scheme;

- Where a manufacturer and/or importer produces or imports one-off or limited numbers of gas devices (type A), thus ensuring an acceptable level of safety while still allowing for market testing and gas appliance design innovation without the financial burden of laboratory based type testing;

- Where a gas device (type A) has an existing approval, but due to *repair, alteration,*

modification, or upgrade the appliance design or operation would fall outside any pre-existing Safety Approval or approval;

- Where a second-hand gas device (type A), with existing overseas approval, is imported for installation and use, including those installed in imported pre-owned recreational vehicles;
- Where an existing installation includes a gas device (type A) that is identified to be un-approved and approval is required for continued use. Cases of this nature would be investigated by the Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate to identify and prosecute any offences under legislation as a separate matter; or
- In any cases where it is identified an appliance is not eligible to be assessed under a *type test scheme*.

The approval of an *Individual Type A Gas Device* under the Act only has force in Queensland. Certifiers cannot approve devices for supply, installation or use outside Queensland.

Requirements of this Code of Practice

1. All approvals must be undertaken in accordance with the P&G Act, this Code of Practice, the *Rules* and any conditions of appointment issued by the *Chief Inspector*. If there is any conflict between the *Rules*, the conditions of appointment and the P&G Act, the P&G Act and the conditions of appointment prevail.
2. Failure of a *certifier* to comply with the conditions of appointment may result in the *Chief Inspector* withdrawing that appointment to be a *certifier* or imposing additional conditions on the appointment.
3. The processes of a *certifier* (applications received, assessment and approval processes) are subject to audit by the *Chief Inspector* or auditors satisfactory to the *Chief Inspector*. A copy of any audit report must be provided to the *Chief Inspector* for review when requested. If the audit shows that a *certifier* has failed to comply with any of the conditions of appointment then the *certifier* must take any steps which are identified by audit or required by the *Chief Inspector*.
4. The *certifier* must notify the Chief Inspector in writing of any changes in employment status and/or organisational structure, or if the *Certifier* no longer intends to approve Type A devices. If the *certifier* no longer intends to approve individual Type A devices the *certifier* must return their letter of appointment to the *Chief Inspector*.
5. *Individual Type A Gas Device* approvals can only be cancelled by a *certifier* with the written permission of the *Chief Inspector* in accordance with section 733(3).

Note: Approvals may only be cancelled or suspended for safety reasons and not for commercial or personal reasons. Any suspension or cancellation should be imposed in consultation with the *Chief Inspector* or delegate

6. *Certifiers* must have appropriate liability insurance to perform the approval process and will be responsible for rectification costs associated with any non-compliance identified in relation to an appliance they have incorrectly approved.
7. *Certifiers* must decide their own fees for undertaking assessment of applications and issuing approvals.
8. Where necessary, for technical or compliance clarification, the *certifier* is encouraged to consult with gas device designers, manufacturers, suppliers, other *certifiers* and the Inspectorate.

Note: The *Rules* may include provision for a group of committee to provide technical and compliance clarification and advice.

9. The *Chief Inspector* Petroleum and Gas or delegate must be consulted where guidance is required in relation to legislation or safety requirements. This might be necessary where the appliance type or circumstances are abnormal and where the *Rules* are silent or unclear. The *Chief Inspector* or

delegate must be consulted and all actions taken, documented and justified.

10. The *certifier* must implement and maintain a skills maintenance development process to ensure currency with legislation, standards, industry practice and testing/assessment procedures in accordance with the *Rules*.
11. The *certifier's* role under the Act is to certify that an *Individual Type A Gas Device* meets essential safety requirements. Those requirements are set out in Appendix 1 and are also provided for by the *Rules*. A *certifier's* role must not in any way be compromised by commercial considerations including time pressures from operating businesses.
12. A *certifier* must take steps to avoid any conflict of interests or perceived conflict of interests.

Examples of conflicts of interest include but may not be limited to:

- Approval of personally owned appliances
- Commercial interests in marketing of approved appliance
- Acceptance of gifts or favours that may be seen to compromise the independence of the assessment should be avoided.

If a *certifier* has concerns about a possible conflict of interests the *certifier* may consult with the *Chief Inspector* of delegate.

13. Under no circumstances should any approval be granted or should any indication be given by the *certifier* that an appliance can be supplied, installed or used until it fully complies and has been approved.

Note: A *certifier* may advise an applicant that in special circumstances approval in writing can be requested from the *Chief Inspector* or delegate and that such requests will be considered on merit.

14. In circumstances where the device is to be installed prior to the *certifier* giving approval for the device, the approver must advise the installer that the gas supply must be disconnected until the *certifier* is on site. The appliance may be connected to the gas supply during the onsite approval process for the purpose of commissioning and operational tests. If any remedial work is required the appliance must be disconnected until reassessment can be undertaken.

Note: It is not considered an offence under section 733 of the P&G Act to connect fuel gas to an appliance for the purpose of assessment and approval.

15. Any *repair, modification, alteration or upgrade* required to achieve the approval of a device must be carried out separately to the approval process.

Note: The *Rules* may provide a process by which this can be demonstrated. For example, any gas work outside of the approval process could be undertaken by another *certifier* or another appropriately licensed and competent person of the applicant's choosing.

Appendix 1 Essential gas safety requirements

Gas equipment shall be designed and built so as to operate safely and present no danger to persons, domestic animals or property when used for its intended purpose in accordance with the supplied instructions.

1. Gas equipment provided for assessment and approval shall be accompanied by an appropriate set of installation, operating and maintenance instructions. Any instructions and warning notices shall be provided in English and may include appropriate diagrams, pictures or drawings.
2. The instructions supplied with the gas equipment shall contain all information to ensure that those operations are correctly performed and that the equipment may be used safely. In particular the instructions shall specify—
 - a. the type of gas to be used;
 - b. the gas supply pressure and gas equipment operating pressure at a specified point;
 - c. the ventilation requirements;
 - d. the conditions for disposal of combustion products; and
 - e. any special requirements.
3. The instructions for use and maintenance intended for the user shall contain all the information required for safe use, and shall particularly draw the user's attention to any restrictions on use or special precautions required to ensure safety.
4. Each gas appliance shall be legibly and clearly marked in the English language in a permanent manner with:
 - a. The name or registered trade-name or mark of the manufacturer, or supplier.
 - b. Means to identify the specific model.
 - c. The mark of approval and the approval number.
 - d. The type of gas or gases the equipment may safely use.
 - e. The appliance burner pressure(s) at which the burner is designed to operate, except for appliances designed to operate at cylinder pressure.
 - f. The gas input rating (value and units) of the gas equipment.
 - g. The gas supply pressure for which the appliance is designed.
5. The warning notices on the gas equipment shall clearly state the gas type and supply pressure for which the equipment is designed and any restrictions on use, in particular the restrictions whereby the equipment shall be installed and operated outdoors only or only in areas where there is sufficient ventilation.
6. Materials shall be appropriate for their intended purpose and shall withstand the environmental, physical, chemical and thermal conditions to which they will foreseeably be subjected.
7. Controls and safety devices shall be suitable for their intended application.
8. Gas equipment shall be so constructed that, when used in accordance with the supplied instructions, no mechanical instability, distortion, breakage or undue wear likely to compromise its safety can occur.
9. Condensation from flue gases produced at the start-up or during use shall not affect the safety of gas equipment.
10. Gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed as to minimize the risk of explosion in the event of a fire of external origin.

11. Appliances shall be so constructed that water and inappropriate air penetration into the gas circuit does not occur.
12. Gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed as to be electrically safe.
13. All pressurized parts of gas equipment shall withstand the mechanical and thermal stresses to which they may be subjected without any deformation affecting safety.
14. Gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed that the failure or partial failure of any one safety controlling or regulating device does not lead to an unsafe situation.
15. If gas equipment is equipped with safety devices and controlling devices, the functioning of the safety devices shall not be compromised by those of the controlling devices.
16. All adjustable components of gas equipment which are preset during manufacture or commissioning and which are not intended to be adjusted by the user shall be protected from such adjustments.
17. Controlling devices shall be clearly and permanently marked and have appropriate signs to indicate correct operation. Their design shall be such as to preclude accidental manipulation.
18. Gas equipment shall be so designed that in the event of normal fluctuation of the gas supply pressure it continues to operate safely.
19. Gas equipment design shall be so designed that abnormal fluctuation of the gas supply pressure or failure of the gas supply or its restoration does not lead to an unsafe situation.
20. Gas equipment design shall ensure safe operation in the event of expected gas quality variations.
21. Gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed that any gas leakage is minimized and cannot give rise to a hazardous situation.
22. To avoid a dangerous accumulation of unburned gas, gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed that gas release during ignition, re-ignition and after flame extinction is limited
23. Gas equipment shall be so designed that unburned gas does not accumulate to a dangerous level during operation.
24. Gas equipment shall be so constructed that when used in accordance with the supplied instructions—
 - a. ignition and re-ignition is reliable and complete; and
 - b. burner cross-lighting is assured.
25. Gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed that, when used in accordance with the supplied instructions, flame stability is assured, flame abnormality is avoided, the emission of substances harmful to health is minimized and no fire hazard arises.
26. Gas equipment shall be so designed and constructed that, when used in accordance with supplied instructions; there will be no unintended release of combustion products.
27. Gas equipment designed for connection to a flue for the removal of combustion products shall be so constructed that, when the appliance and flue system are installed in accordance with the supplied instructions, abnormal draught conditions do not result in dangerous release of combustion products into the space in which it is installed.

28. An indoor flueless appliance shall not release combustion products at concentrations likely to present a danger to the health of persons when it is installed and used in accordance with the supplied instructions.
29. When gas equipment is installed and used in accordance with supplied instructions, parts of the equipment in close proximity to combustible surfaces shall not reach temperatures that create a hazard to or cause changes in surrounding materials that may accumulate and cause a hazard.
30. Gas equipment design shall ensure that the surface temperatures of appliance controls intended to be handled shall not present a danger to the user.
31. Gas equipment design shall ensure that the surface temperature of parts of appliances that are likely to be touched shall not under any operating conditions present a danger to persons.
32. Gas equipment shall be designed to minimize the dangers to children and infirm and elderly persons.
33. Gas equipment shall be designed and constructed to minimize mechanical hazards to persons including the installer, service person or user.

Note: Mechanical hazards include sharp points, corners or edges, and hazards from moving parts.
34. Gas equipment shall have adequate means of support and shall be stable or remain safe when subjected to anticipated external forces.

Note: External forces include those from seismic activity and any other force that might tend to overturn a freestanding appliance. In most cases restraint or protection against seismic acceleration is adequate if effective for accelerations up to 1g.
35. Any part of gas equipment that requires maintenance for safety purposes shall be readily accessible.

Glossary

approved

the supply, installation or use has been approved by—

- (i) the *Chief Inspector*; or
- (ii) a person or body approved by the *Chief Inspector* for the particular type of gas device or gas fitting (i.e. a *certifier*).

certificate of appointment

A certificate signed by the *Chief Inspector*, Petroleum and Gas approving the identified person under s733(1)(a)(ii) to be able to approve the supply, installation or use of a gas device (Type A). The appointment may be subject to conditions.

Certifier

A person or body who has a current appointment from the *Chief Inspector* to approve the offer for sale, installation or use of an Individual Type A gas device under s733(2) of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*.

Chief Inspector

Chief Inspector of Petroleum and Gas as appointed under s735 of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*.

Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB)

A body or organisation acceptable to the *Technical Regulator* that provides assurance of compliance of products with nominated standards or other accepted safety criteria.

Device Standards Body

A gas industry trade association responsible for the *Rules* and which maintains a register of approved Type A Gas Devices.

Individual Type A Gas Device

- A gas device (type A) manufactured and/or imported as a one-off or in limited numbers.
- a gas device (type A) with an existing approval, but due to *repair, alteration, modification, or upgrade* the appliance design or operation would fall outside the approval.
- a second-hand gas device (type A), with existing overseas approval, imported for installation and use, including those installed in imported pre-owned recreational vehicles.
- a gas device (type A) that is installed but is identified to be un-approved during maintenance or inspection.
- In any cases where it is identified an appliance is not eligible to be assessed under a type test scheme.

Individual Type A Gas Device Approval Scheme

The scheme developed for Individual Type A Gas Devices in Queensland as an alternative to the national type test scheme for mass produced appliances. To be applied in very specific case scenarios.

Repair, alteration, modification or upgrade

Any repair, upgrade, component replacement or construction alteration that causes the gas appliance to no longer meet any pre-existing approval or certified design.

Rules

The Safety Approval Rules for the approval of *Individual Type A Gas Devices* which provide for application forms for approval, checklists, test criteria, certificates of approval and approval marks.

Type A gas device (appliance):

Section 724 of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* defines a Type A gas device as:

724 Types of gas device

(1) A **gas device (type A)** is a device used or designed or intended for use for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2), and prescribed under a regulation.

(2) For subsection (1), the purposes are—

- (a) for production of heat, light or power using fuel gas; or
- (b) for refrigeration for which fuel gas is the fuel; or
- (c) as a propellant.

Section 6A of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Regulation 2004* then refers to Schedule 6:

Schedule 6 Gas Devices (Type A)

Note: A device mentioned in this schedule is a gas device (type A) only if it is used or designed or intended for use for a purpose mentioned in section 724(2) of the Act. See section 724(1) of the Act.

- the following types of commercial catering gas equipment—
 - atmospheric steamers
 - barbecue grillers
 - boiling water units
 - chinese cooking tables
 - food warmers including bain-marie
 - fryers
 - open and closed top boiling tables
 - ovens

- pasta cookers
- re-thermalisers
- salamanders, grillers and toasters
- solid grill plates and griddles
- stockpots and brat pans
- decorative gas log appliances and similar appliances
- domestic gas cooking appliances
- domestic gas refrigerators
- domestic outdoor gas barbeques
- indirect gas-fired ducted air-heaters
- gas air conditioners with the capacity to consume no more than 500MJ in an hour
- gas fired water heaters for hot water supply or central heating
- gas laundry dryers
- gas pool heaters
- gas space heating appliances
- LP gas portable and mobile appliances
- LPG mobile industrial direct fired air heaters
- overhead radiant tube gas heaters
- portable gas generators with the capacity to consume no more than 500MJ in an hour
- radiant gas heaters for outdoor and non-residential use

Type test scheme

The procedure by which a *CAB* checks and certifies that product is fully compliant with the requirements of the relevant standard/s and regulatory requirements and that it is a representative sample of the production models.