

Standards Alert

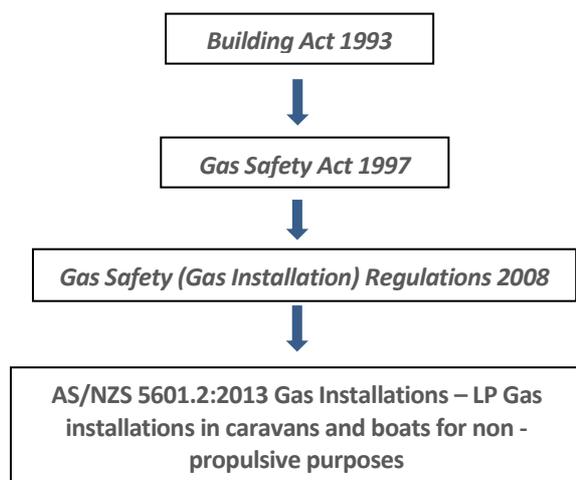
AS/NZS 5601.2:2013 Gas Installations – LP Gas installations in caravans and boats for non-propulsive purposes

Amendment No. 1

What is the scope of this Standard?

AS/NZS 5601.2:2013 contains the requirements and methods of compliance for the “the installation and commissioning of LP Gas installations in caravans and boats for non-propulsive purposes.”

Victoria’s Plumbing Regulatory Framework



Where is AS/NZS 5601.2:2013 called up?

The *Gas Safety Act 1997* forms part of the “plumbing laws” as defined by Section 221B of the *Building Act 1993*. Section 72 of the *Gas Safety Act 1997* requires that:

- 1) A person carrying out gas-fitting work must ensure that that work complies with—
 - a) the prescribed standards and requirements in relation to that work.

Version No. 041
Gas Safety Act 1997
No. 99 of 1997

Regulation 15 of the *Gas Safety (Gas Installation) Regulations 2008* states that:

- 1) For the purposes of section 72 (1) of the *Gas Safety Act*—
 - b) the prescribed standard in relation to gasfitting work to which **AS/NZS 5601.2** applies is that standard

Australian/New Zealand Standard™
Gas installations
Part 2: LP Gas installations in caravans and boats for non-propulsive purposes

AS/NZS 5601.2 (including any amendments, modification or replacement Standard) is therefore the prescribed Standard for all relevant gasfitting work in Victoria.

Amendment - changes and impact

In May 2016, Standards Australia published Amendment 1 to **AS/NZS 5601.2:2013**, to address a number of minor issues.

Publication Date

- 11 May 2016

Class of plumbing work affected

- Gasfitting

NOTE: New Clauses have been marked with (NEW)

Section 2 Performance based design, installation and other essential requirements

Clause 2.4.2 Required clearances around a cylinder

This clause now includes a reference to clearances from openings in addition to clearances from ignition sources.

Clause 2.7.8 Gas pressure regulator (c)

The requirement for locating the gas regulator has been amended. Regulators are now required to be *accessible*:

“Access can be gained without hazard or undue difficulty for inspection, repair, testing, renewal, or operational purposes.”

Clause 2.9.3 General installation requirements (p) (NEW)

A new requirement has been added to this section:

“Gas appliances shall include a system that prevents the uncontrolled release of gas.”

Clause 2.9.7 Gas appliance connection and isolation

The requirements for accessing a shut-off valve have been tightened. The Standard now requires that:

“Access can be gained without hazard, undue difficulty, or use of a tool.”

Clause 2.14 Electrical Requirements

This clause has been deleted. The same requirements are already covered by *Clause 2.9.3 (i)*:

“Electrical supplies to gas appliances shall have a readily accessible and identifiable means of isolation located adjacent to the appliance.”

Section 3 Means of compliance - cylinders

Clause 3.2.2 Required clearances around a cylinder (c) (NEW)

This clause has been added to clarify the clearance requirements in caravans by referencing the new *Figure 3.2B*.

Figure 3.2(B) Typical cylinder mounting location on the A-frame of caravans

Like *Figure 3.2(A)* for boats this new *Figure* is designed to assist practitioners by illustrating the requirements for mounting a gas cylinder on a caravan.

Clause 3.4.2 Cylinders located in a combined storage compartment/locker for caravans

This title of this clause has been rewritten to clarify that these requirements apply only to caravans.

Clause 3.4.4 Ventilation openings

This Clause has been deleted as these requirements are already covered by *Clause 3.4.1 Caravans (f)*.

Clause 3.4.5.1 Cylinder compartments with internal access

This clause has been rewritten to extend the following requirement to all installations in Australia and New Zealand:

“Where the compartment is accessible from within the caravan or boat, access to the compartment shall be provided only through a door that latches closed securely. The compartment shall be sealed to prevent flow of vapour into the caravan or boat when the door is closed.”

Section 5 Means of compliance – piping and fittings

Clause 5.2.2 Piping in caravans (a)

This clause has been revised, and hoses are now required to be *accessible*. This means:

“Access can be gained without hazard or undue difficulty for inspection, repair, testing, renewal, or operational purposes.”

Clause 5.2.3 Piping in boats

This clause has been revised, and hoses are now required to be *accessible*.

Clause 5.2.5 Hose Assemblies (c)(iv)(NEW)

An additional requirement has been added. Hose assemblies must be:

“protected from kinking or damage”.

Section 6 Means of compliance – gas appliances

Clause 6.8.1 Electrical Requirements – General

This Clause has been rewritten to require that the means of electrical isolation be “readily accessible”. This means that:

“Access can be gained without hazard, undue difficulty, or use of a tool.”

NOTE: Practitioners should be aware that this differs from the accessibility requirements contained in *Clause 4.18.1 Gas Appliance* of **AS/NZS 3000:2007 Electrical Installations**.

Clause 6.14 Gas Barbecues and radiant gas heaters for outdoor use (NEW)

This new clause has been added to clarify the requirements for the installation of barbecues and radiant heaters in outdoor areas.

The provisions in **AS/NZS 5601.2** reflect those in **AS/NZS 5601.1** and require barbecues and radiant heaters designed for outdoor use to be installed outdoors or in areas complying with *Appendix L* of **AS/NZS 5601.2**.

Appendix F - Testing gas installations

This Appendix has been extensively rewritten to simplify and expand the testing procedures. The Appendix is now divided into four new sections:

- *F1 General*
- *F2 Pipework Test*
- *F3 Installation gas tightness test*
- *F4 Methods of locating gas leaks*

Clause F1.1 General – New installations

This clause now explicitly requires practitioners to test both “pipework” and the “installation of gas appliances”.

Clause F1.2 General – Additions and alterations to installations

The Standard now explicitly requires practitioners to carry out testing of both the pipework and gas appliances “on all additions and alterations to existing installations”.

Clause F2.1 Pipework Test – Method (NEW)

This section expands on the existing testing procedure to add two new requirements:

- “Ensure the installation is disconnected from the regulator;
- Ensure all gas appliances are disconnected or turned off at the appliance isolation valve(s).”

Clause F3.2 Installation Gas tightness test – Method 1 Pressure Loss (NEW)

This clause presents practitioners with one of two options to test the gas tightness of an installation. *Method 1 Pressure Loss* requires practitioners to carry out the following:

- a. “Ensure all open ends are plugged or capped.

- b. Ensure all gas appliance isolation valve(s) are open, and appliance control valve(s) turned off. Any gas appliance with an interlock shall be in the open position.
- c. Connect a suitable test instrument (e.g. manometer).
- d. Open the LP Gas cylinder valve or apply pressure using regulated compressed air or inert gas to operating pressure.
- e. Isolate the pressure source and allow a suitable period (2 min) for the temperature of the testing medium within the installation to stabilize.
- f. Measure any loss of pressure during a test period of 5 min.”

The installation will be fit for purpose if after following this procedure “there is no detectable loss of pressure during the test period of 5 min.”

Clause F4 Methods of Locating Gas Leaks (NEW)

This clause details the requirements for detecting a gas leak:

“A non-corrosive soap and water solution or leakage detection fluid applied externally or other suitable gas detecting equipment or means shall be the only methods used to locate a gas leak. Matches, candles or any other ignition source shall not be used.”

Appendix G Consumer Instructions

A new requirement has been added to the list of information that must be provided to the consumer:

“For flexible hoses the consumer instructions shall include their—

- i. location;
- ii. accessibility; and
- iii. need for regular inspection by a competent person.”

This Alert on the recent Amendment is not exhaustive. The full text of AS/NZS 5601.1:2013 can be found at the SAI Global website: <http://infostore.saiglobal.com/>. AS/NZS 5601.2:2013/Amdt 1:2016 is © Standards Australia Limited, and has been reproduced by the VBA with the permission of Standards Australia under Licence 1609-c020.