

Statement from the Commission for Energy Regulation

The Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) is pleased to announce the appointment of the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGII) as the designated gas safety supervisory body (SSB) for the new designation period commencing 1st January 2016. The appointment of the RGII follows a competitive procurement process.

The RGII will continue to carry out its SSB functions until 31st December 2015 and will commence the new phase of the scheme in January 2016. The scheme for overseeing registered gas installers will continue with some enhancements which were identified through a public consultation process undertaken by the CER in 2014. These changes are designed to further build on the positive safety benefits of the scheme for the general public. The key changes are:

- the CER intends to introduce a requirement that registered gas installers (RGIs) display the RGI logo on their vehicles (if the vehicle displays other details relating to their work); and,
- the CER intends that an electronic certification system will be in place and maintained by RGII post 2016.

The RGII will continue its work in registering gas installers, undertaking inspections and investigating complaints.

There are currently approximately 3,000 members, which we hope will increase over time in line with economic growth. The CER acknowledges the positive contribution of RGIs to public safety and will continue to work



Sheenagh Rooney

with installers and the RGII going forward to build on the safety standards provided by the scheme. The RGI scheme has seen a range of positive safety developments over the past number of years and the CER will continue to work with industry, key stakeholders and the RGII to ensure an increase in public awareness of the benefits of using an RGI.

The CER will continue its work with RGII and the public to ensure that allegations of those operating illegally are investigated and prosecuted if appropriate.

The CER continues to work to improve the safety of the public and is expecting to shortly issue a decision in relation to the extension of the gas installer scheme into the non-domestic area and will work with industry and the RGII to ensure its successful implementation.

The CER looks forward to working with RGII and its members into the future to bring safety benefits to the general public in their homes.

Sheenagh Rooney
Director Energy Safety, CER.

Prosecution of Unregistered Gas Installers

The gas safety regulatory scheme has delivered benefits to the public in terms of safety over the past number of years. By law, in order to complete Gas Works relating to a domestic appliance, an individual must be registered with the RGII. By engaging with a registered gas installer (RGI), a customer can be assured that the installer is registered, insured, regularly inspected and competent to undertake gas works. Only an RGI can issue a customer with a certificate of conformance. Unregistered parties who complete Gas Works relating to a domestic appliance may be fined €15,000 or imprisoned for up to three years or both. The CER appoints Gas Safety Officers to investigate cases where Gas Works may have been completed by non-registered parties.

The CER oversees promotional activity to inform the public about the requirements and the benefits of the RGI scheme, and in relation to how suspected illegal activity can be reported. In parallel to CERs promotional activity, the CER has an enforcement role and undertakes prosecutions of individuals undertaking gas works while not registered. In 2014, the CER commenced over 50 investigations relating to allegations of non-registered parties carrying out Gas Works, describing themselves as registered and describing themselves in a manner likely to suggest they were registered. Of these investigations, 17 are still actively being progressed by the CER and may result in the prosecution of individual parties in 2015.

In 2014 the CER completed seven successful prosecutions. These



prosecutions took place in Dublin, Navan, Limerick, and Drogheda. Prior to 2014, four cases resulted in successful prosecutions. The following charts set out the current activity in relation to suspected illegal works and potential cases:

CER Gas Safety Prosecutions



No of Alleged Breach Reports Per Year



The CER continues to enhance its enforcement regime and has commenced a process for the proactive monitoring of the market which will see the CER identifying and contacting individuals who advertise for gas works. This, in conjunction with the continued engagement from the public and industry, will ensure that illegal installers are identified and subsequently prosecuted.

Gas Safety Supervisory Body Announcement

The CER has announced, following a public procurement process, the appointment of a Gas Safety Supervisory Body (SSB) to regulate gas installers in respect of safety in Ireland. From January 2016 RGII Register of Gas Installers of Ireland Ltd. will be the Safety Supervisory Body and will operate under the RGI brand. These arrangements will be in place until the end of 2022. Customers can have peace of mind that Registered Gas Installers (RGIs), who carry out work in their home, do so safely thereby protecting lives and property.

There are currently approximately 3,000 RGIs in Ireland, all of which are supervised by the Gas SSB so that customers can be assured that RGIs working in their homes are competent, audited and inspected by the Gas SSB and insured. RGIs must also provide a completion certificate to consumers on completion of their work certifying that their work is carried out to specified standards.

The scheme, which has been in existence since 2009, will be strengthened going forward by improvements which include the introduction of an electronic certification system which will lead to efficiencies in the monitoring of completion certificates. In addition there will be a requirement that RGIs display the RGI logo when advertising on their vehicles so that customers can clearly identify RGIs. There will also be an increased focus on promotion and public awareness of the scheme.

It is an offence to carry out Gas Works, to describe oneself as an RGI or to act in a manner likely to suggest that one is a RGI while not being registered. The CER has carried out 17



Paul Waldron

successful prosecutions on non-registered individuals to date.

In making the announcement, Paul McGowan, CER Commissioner for Safety, said: "We congratulate RGII on their designation as the Gas Safety Supervisory Body for a seven year period commencing January 2016. We will continue to work with RGII and stakeholders to ensure that the Registered Gas Installer regulatory scheme continues to improve and grow in its effectiveness benefiting the general public."

The CER is committed to ensuring that the next stage of the scheme benefits the public and improves safety in the home. The CER will work closely with RGII and all industry stakeholders to ensure that this is the case.

We in RGII are similarly committed and look forward to ensuring that the scheme is even more successful over the next seven years.

Paul Waldron
General Manager, RGII

5 Year Competency Assessment

In accordance with Section C 4.1.2 of the Criteria Document version 1.4 and section 10.2 of the rules of registration, all RGIs are required to undergo a formal accredited "Domestic Gas Safety Assessments" (DGA) in an Accredited Assessment Centre every 5 years.

The criteria for the "Domestic Gas Safety Assessments" (DGA) can be viewed on the following links:

- Practical Assessment Performance Criteria (CER/13/273)
- Knowledge and understanding Assessment Performance Criteria (CER/13/274).

The assessment will be based on this criteria.

The assessment criteria was developed by the scheme committee and approved by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB). This committee, under the chairmanship of the CER, consists of representatives of the following industry stakeholders; CER, RGII, ILPGA, GNI, Calor, Flogas, Solas, ERS, Blue Flame, METAC, Martin Hogan Training and the Installer Representative Panel. Assessment Centres providing the "Domestic Gas Safety Assessments" (DGA) must be certified by an accredited certification body, which in turn must be accredited by a national accreditation body for this assessment in accordance with the standard ISO/IEC 17024.

The Following Assessment Centres have been approved to deliver the "Domestic Gas Safety Assessment" (DGA)

- **Martin Hogan Energy Training**, Tel: 01 8110607, Unit 4A, Century Business Park, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, D 11.
- **METAC**, Tel: 057 8756540, Unit 3-4 Mountrath Enterprise Park, Mountrath, Co. Laois
- **CCTS**, Tel: 0044 28 9073 9418, Unit 4-6 Tamar Commercial Centre, 25 Tamar Street, Belfast BT4 1HR
- **CDETB**, Tel: 01 6055900, Chapelizod Hill Road, Dublin 20, D20 CX93

Assessment centres are separate entities to RGII and offer this assessment to RGIs only, on a commercial basis. Please note that any RGI sitting the assessment is not required to attend any training course, however if they wish to avail of pre-assessment training the associated training centres are in a position to provide this on a commercial basis.

In order to assist RGIs to meet the commercial cost of the initial requirement for re-assessment RGII will credit the RGIs accounts by €230 on receipt of the "Domestic Gas Safety Assessments" (DGA) certificate of competence. This credit may only be used by RGIs for registration fees or the purchase of Declaration of Conformance Certificates (certs). This credit is not refundable.

For any clarification on the requirement for re-assessment of competence, please contact RGII at 01-4997998.

Inspectors Profile



Eddie Gannon is an Inspector with RGII and is married with two children. Eddie lives in Maynooth Co Kildare and is keen sports fan of all sports in his spare time. Eddie joined the Dublin Gas Company in 1978 as an apprentice gas fitter and has worked in all areas including Installations and servicing, emergency response and safety and quality. Eddie's area of operation is Leinster. Eddie is always available for technical advice and can be contacted on 087-9879024.

A word from the Chairman

It is now seven years since the Registered Gas Installer Scheme (RGI) come in to being with the first designation period coming to an end in December. I'm pleased to be able to report that the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) has recently re-appointed RGII as the GSSB body for another seven year period commencing in January 2016. As the scheme evolves, we at RGII look forward to working with all stake holders in the best interests of public safety.

Since the RGI scheme was set up in 2009 quite a lot has happened. The membership has grown and remains constant at around 3000 members and the CER has commenced the process of adding Non-Domestic to the scheme which will further increase the membership and improve safety in that sector. A forum chaired by the CER has been formalised for installer and RGII representatives discuss issues of concern and common interest relating to the scheme.

The five year competency assessment program has commenced. RGII are glad to be in a position to able to help with the costs involved by providing a subsidy of €230 to the RGI on successful completion of the assessment.

Delays or failure to return Conformance Certificate's and Notice of Hazard's has proven to be an issue for some installers. RGII has put in place a number of initiatives to improve certificate management and to facilities and encourage the return of certificates within the required period of twenty working days.

Persistent and un-cooperative offenders are subject to disciplinary process, which can, lead to their removal from the register. It's very important to be aware that when this happens it is then illegal to undertake any gas works. So can I take the opportunity to stress the importance of returning Conformance Certificates and Notices of Hazards within the period required.

To avoid been subject to disciplinary process can I ask anyone who has certificates outstanding to please return them without delay. If you need any assistance or clarification in this regard contact RGII. Needless to say, disciplinary action is not the preferred course of action and is only used as a last resort and hopefully will not be necessary

It is intended to introduce an electronic certificate system with a view to eventually

phasing out over time the paper based system. A working group made up of personnel from RGII, Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) and an IRP representative will be working in conjunction with IT specialists to develop a user friendly integrated system. When complete this will make the management and operation of the scheme more efficient, easier for the installer and will enable RGII to more accurately identify trends and develop measures to further enhance the registration scheme and safety generally.

RGII provides support to the CER in its role to promote public awareness and compliance with the RGI scheme and to combat and prosecute people involved in illegal gas works. Can I remind us all to report where illegal gas works are suspected. You can do so on a confidential basis either through the RGII or CER websites.

We have some retirement's pending. Willie Wilson who has worked for 44 years in the gas industry, starting with the Dublin Gas Company, then with Bord Gais in various technical roles and the last seven years as Safety and Inspections Manager for RGII.

Willie has been a key member of the RGII team tasked by the CER, with first putting in place, and then administering the Registered Gas Installer Scheme we have today. This replaced the voluntary schemes which had been operated by Bord Gais and the ILPGA member companies. His wealth of knowledge, dedication and contribution to the development and success of the RGI scheme and to standards and safe practices in the gas industry are known widely and fully recognised.

Paul Waldron, our general manager who worked for many years in senior management positions in the electrical industry and with RECI and RGII for the last 5 years is also heading towards retirement. Paul and his staff have put RGII on a sound financial footing, with the capacity to be able to adapt to any changes deemed necessary in the future to enhance the operation and the overall performance of the registration scheme. Paul lead his team in preparing a successful tender to have RGII re-appointed for another seven year period.

On behalf of the board and staff at RGII, I would like to express our thanks to Willie and Paul for their commitment and loyal service, and to wish both of them many happy years of



Liam Doyle

a well earned retirement, riding motor bikes and playing golf. We have commenced the recruitment process to fill both positions which are advertised in the national press and are posted on Jobs.ie. I'm very glad to be able to say that Paul and Willie will continue to be available to provide assistance so as to ensure a smooth and seamless handover to their replacements.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and the board of directors to express thanks to the management and staff at RGII for all their good work and to the members for their valued support and commitment to the scheme. I look forward to the scheme continuing to evolve with input from all stake holders, using new technologies and sound proven practices to meet the requirements for safety in the gas industry

Liam Doyle

Notification of Hazard/Declaration of Conformance

It is a legal requirement under current legislation that all "Gas Works" must be undertaken and certified by a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) who is registered with the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGI).

However, it is important to note that the RGI is certifying only the gas works he/she has undertaken and not the complete, existing installation.

For example, when issuing a Certificate No. 3, all details on this Declaration of Conformance (Cert 3, Existing Installations) MUST be completed. This is important information as it denotes the "Gas Work" that was actually carried out and declares that this work was carried out in accordance with the Standard for Domestic Gas Installations (I.S. 813/I.S. EN 1949). It also informs the customer of any other "Gas Work" which was not carried out

lest there be any misunderstanding. In the sample, it is made clear that the RGI is certifying that he carried out the repair and service of a central heating boiler. All other items are indicated as not having been done by the RGI by the insertion of an "X" in the appropriate boxes.

The RGI must also issue a Notification of Hazard if he finds defects on the installation.

On receipt of a copy of this notification, RGI will issue a letter to the customer confirming the action required by the customer. The responsibility then rests with the customer to follow through on the advice.

The first bar chart below shows the ten most common Notifications of Hazard issued by RGIs regarding existing ageing installations since the introduction of the regulatory scheme.

The second bar chart shows the evolution of sale of certificates for the same period.

DOMESTIC PREMISES GAS INSTALLATION

DECLARATION OF CONFORMANCE FOR EXISTING INSTALLATIONS WITH A GAS SUPPLY GAS METER FOR NEW APPLIANCE FIT (EXCEPT BOILERS), REPAIR, SAFETY CHECK AND/OR SERVICE

Form complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

No. EX 1234567

LOCATION OF PREMISES
GRN: 05567204
ERCODE: 090354
ADDRESS: 5 SEAFIELD ROAD, MULLINGAR, CO. WESTMEATH.
CUSTOMER NAME: BLOGGS
TEL NO.: 083 244 6524

NAT GAS L.P. GAS

OWNER OF PREMISES DETAILS
ERCODE: 090354
ADDRESS: 5 SEAFIELD ROAD, MULLINGAR, CO. WESTMEATH.
CUSTOMER NAME: BLOGGS
TEL NO.: 083 244 6524

Appliance Type	Make / Model	Location	Repaired		I.S. 813/EN 1949 Installed		Annex C* Serviced		Annex E* Safety Check	
			YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Hob					X		X		X	
Oven			X		X		X		X	
Cooker			X		X		X		X	
Fire			X		X		X		X	
Flueless Fire			X		X		X		X	
C/H Boiler			✓				✓			
Water Heater			X		X		X		X	
			X		X		X		X	
Pipework			X		X		X		X	

Comments: REPAIRED AND SERVICED MAXI BOILER IN KITCHEN

Your next Service / Safety Check is due on 14/10/16 RGI No. 083 244 6524

APPLIANCE LOCATION CORRECT FLUE INSPECTED AND ADEQUATE SOUNDNESS TEST PASS

ADEQUATE PERMANENT VENTILATION

FLUE GAS ANALYSIS: CO 4.4 ppm CO₂ 8.4 % CO/CO₂ Ratio 0.0005

I HEREBY DECLARE, UNDER MY SOLE RESPONSIBILITY & BEING COMPETENT TO DO SO THAT THE WORK SPECIFIED ABOVE, IS CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF IRISH STANDARD B13 'DOMESTIC GAS INSTALLATION' / I.S. EN 1949 LEISURE ACCOMMODATION VEHICLES

B. THAT ALL REQUIREMENTS OF I.S. B13/EN 1949 FOR INSTALLING & TESTING OF THE INSTALLATION PREWORK HAVE BEEN MET

C. THE COMMISSIONING OF NEW APPLIANCES FITTED ABOVE IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF I.S. 813/EN 1949

D. THAT THE INSTALLATION PIPE WORK AND/OR APPLIANCE IS GASTIGHT

E. THAT THE INSTALLATION AT THIS PREMISES IS SAFE TO CONTINUE TO USE

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT IS A COMPLETION CERTIFICATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ENERGY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 2008

Your gas supplier, appliance manufacturers and Irish Standard B13 for Domestic Gas Installations / I.S. EN 1949 Leisure Accommodation Vehicles recommend that in the interest of safety you have your gas appliances serviced annually

Company No: 05567204 Trades Signature: N/A Supply restored after safety isolation (unlocked)

RGI Name: JOE PLUMBER RGI Number: 00077 Sign: Joe Plumber Date of Test: 14/10/15 Date of Issue: 14/10/15

Notice of Hazard issued YES NO Hazard No.: Reason: PTO

COPIES: WHITE - CUSTOMER GREEN - RETURN TO RGI BLUE - COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS PTO

RGI GAS INSTALLATION NOTIFICATION OF HAZARD / NON CONFORMANCE

No. 8093761

REGD. CERTIF. ONLY

REGD. NAME: JOE PLUMBER
ADDRESS: 5 SEAFIELD ROAD, MULLINGAR, CO. WESTMEATH
CUSTOMER: BLOGGS
PHONE: 083 244 6524

REGD. NAME: JOE PLUMBER
REGD. NUMBER: 0007
PHONE: 083 244 6524
NATURAL GAS LPG GAS SUPPLIER: BGE

The gas installation at this address has been inspected for conformity and safety in the manner described in ANNEX R of: I.S. 813 'DOMESTIC GAS INSTALLATIONS' / I.S. EN 1949 NON DOMESTIC / I.S. EN 1949

A NON CONFORMANCE
This appliance or installation does not conform to standard because:
GAS LEFT ON PENDING RECTIFICATION
APPLIANCE: MAKE: MODEL: LOCATION:

B HAZARD
This appliance does not conform to standard and is unsafe because:
NO VENTILATION
APPLIANCE: 2100 GAS FIRE MAKE: 2100 MODEL: 2301
APPLIANCE LOCATION: SITTING ROOM

C HAZARD
In the interests of safety and to prevent possible risk the gas supply to this premise is isolated as the meter / boiler / tank and / or gas supply will be notified.
HAZARD ISOLATED FOR SAFETY
A PRESENT TEST SHOWS GAS LEAKAGE OFF
OTHER:

I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ADVISING MR OF A DEFECT ON THIS GAS INSTALLATION, WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SAFETY OF PERSONS AND/OR PROPERTY.

Business Signature: MRS BLOGGS or Left to Premise by Signature:
RGI Signature: JOE PLUMBER Date: 10/10/15

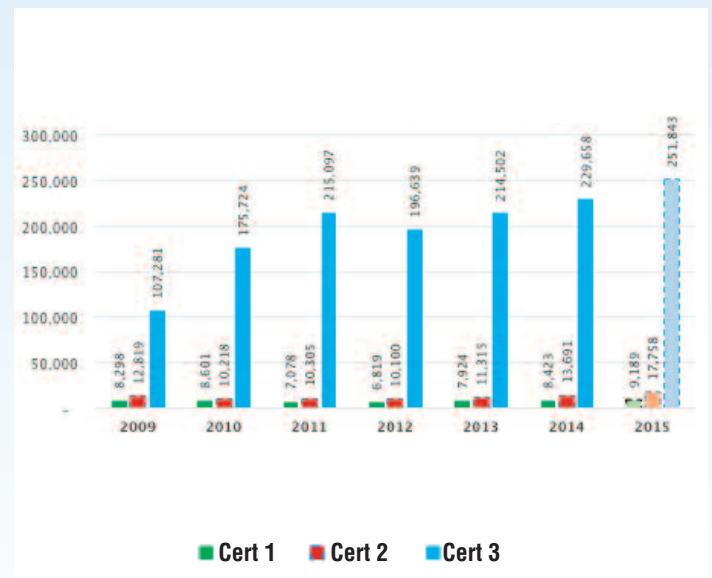
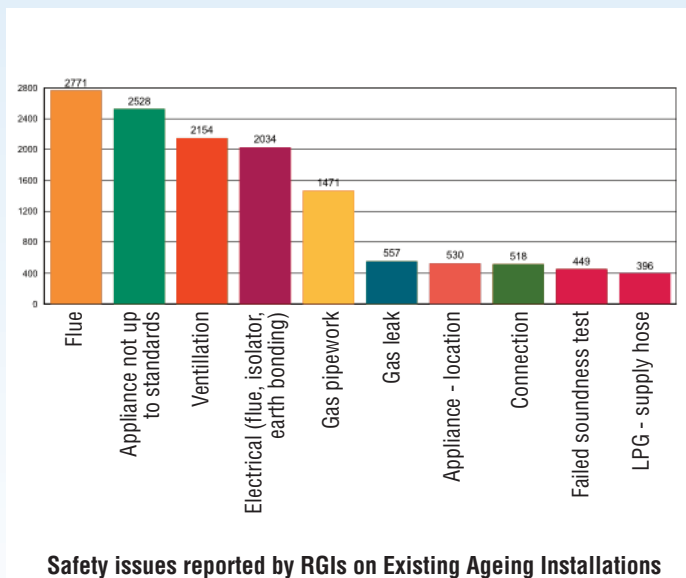
Note: Installation = Discouraging and stopping off premises
Gas Isolated to premise: YES NO METER NUMBER: METER READING: (if applicable)

CUSTOMER INFORMATION
This Notification of Hazard is issued in the interests of the safety of this premise and the persons therein.
Note: The following and are for additional details:
• Identification of the fault is essential and is your responsibility as a gas consumer
• You must only use a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) to rectify the fault
• For a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) letter call 083 499 7993 or visit www.rgi.ie
• Always obtain a "Declaration of Conformity" certificate from the Registered Gas Installer (RGI) on completion of the repair.
• Any personal data collected will be processed strictly in accordance with the Data Protection legislation
- see RGI Data Protection Policy on www.rgi.ie

White - Householder Yellow - RGI Blue - Copy for Records

The 10 most common Notifications of Hazards during the period 01/01/2009 to 09/09/2015

Evolution of sale of certificates with 2015 projection



RGI Notifications and Reminders to Registered Gas Installers

As part of its operation as a Gas Safety Supervisory Body (GSSB) and to ensure that the requirements of the CER Criteria Document are met, RGI sends various letters to RGIs and Companies. The purpose of these letters is to inform the recipients on actions to be taken in order to comply with the regulatory system. They are therefore important and should not be ignored; otherwise they may lead to a suspension and ultimately to a termination of an RGI or Company registration. The following is a brief description of the letters sent out by RGI:

• Notifications

- o Competency Assessment: RGIs selected to complete a Domestic Gas Assessment (DGA) in the following year;
- o Rectification of inspection defect(s) and/or audit non-conformance(s): the RGI is notified about the requirement for rectification by the specified date.

• Reminders

- o Insurance: an RGI or Company must have a valid insurance at all time. To this effect, a reminder letter is sent out approximately 4 weeks before the insurance expires with the request to send the renewed insurance certificate to RGI as soon as available. If not received in time, the RGI or Company will be automatically removed from the RGI website when the insurance has expired. If still not received 2 weeks after the expiry date, the registration of the RGI or Company will be suspended. The onus is on the RGI or Company to provide the insurance certificate. Insurance Companies or Brokers do not always send the certificate to RGI when instructed to do so by the RGI or Company.
- o Subscription: the annual subscription fee is due for payment by the end of January. A reminder letter is sent to all RGIs and Companies who did not submit the payment by the

- o due date;
- o Inspection: each RGI must make himself/herself available for an annual inspection. A reminder is sent to the RGI when the inspector has tried at least twice, without success, to arrange an inspection.
- o Rectification: the RGI is reminded to proceed with and confirm the rectification of the defect(s) and non-conformance(s) highlighted during an inspection. It is a follow-up to the notification;
- o Return of conformance certificates: the certificates should be returned within 20 working days from the date of issue to the customer. RGIs and Companies with a low rate of return or late return will receive a reminder with the request to fill out and return a declaration in relation to the use of certificates.
- o Competency assessment: RGIs who did not complete the competency assessment 3 months before the end of the year will receive a reminder letter.
- o Pre-termination: this letter is sent out when the RGI or Company is already suspended but still in breach of compliance;

• Suspension

When an RGI or Company is still in breach of the regulatory requirements after being reminded and given time to comply, the registration will be suspended and a suspension letter sent out. When suspended, the RGI or Company is removed from the website.

• Termination

When an RGI or Company is already suspended and still in breach of the regulatory requirements despite having been sent a pre-termination letter with additional time to comply, the registration will be terminated. The letter is sent by registered post.

Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) Safety Lock Procedure

When a gas supply has been isolated for safety reasons the customer, in the first instance, will be issued with a Notification of Hazard advising them why their gas installation was isolated and of the need to engage a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) to repair/upgrade outlet pipework and/or appliances as required.

The customer will also be advised of the requirement for the RGI to inform GNI of the declaration of conformance certificate details as soon as the rectification work has been completed and the gas supply restored.

Where GNI becomes aware that the gas supply has been restored without GNI being informed of the new declaration of conformance

details GNI will contact the customer to try and obtain the declaration of conformance certificate details. Failure to obtain a declaration of conformance for this installation **will result in the gas supply being re-locked.**

To avoid any unnecessary inconvenience to customer, RGIs must follow the procedure to advise GNI of the declaration of conformance details following the safe restoration of the gas supply (the procedure to follow is set out on the back of CERT 3 (Blue Copy) and on the safety isolation triangle at the meter, see rear of Cert 3 below).

*Mark Clarke
Service Delivery Manager*

INFORMATION FOR REGISTERED GAS INSTALLERS (RGI)

The Energy (miscellaneous provisions) Act 2006 Pt.3 S.13 (12) "where a registered gas installer carries out any gas works, the registered gas installer concerned shall issue the appropriate completion certificate to the person who requested the works to be carried out".

Only a Register Gas Installer (RGI) is permitted to certify his/her own work or that of a Registered (RGI) Trainee under supervision.

All details on this Declaration of Conformance (Cert 3) Existing Installations MUST be completed. This is important information as it denotes the Gas Work that was carried out and declares that work was carried out in accordance with the Standard for Domestic Gas Installations (I.S. 813/I.S. EN 1949 Leisure Accommodation Vehicles. It also informs the customer of the other Gas Work that was not carried out less there be any miss-understanding.

*** Annex E IS 813 scope of safety inspection (minimum) REQUIRED FOR SAFETY UNLOCK AFTER RECTIFICATION**

1. Soundness of the installation and connected appliances
2. Visible condition of accessible gas pipework and flexible connections
3. Adequacy of fixed air supply
4. Effectiveness of any flue or chimney
5. Appropriateness of appliance location.

*** Annex C IS 813 scope of service (safety minimum)**

1. Serviced in accordance with the manufacturers instructions
2. Effectiveness of the flue
3. Safety devices on or controlling the appliance operational
4. Supply of combustion air
5. Appliance burner pressure
6. Appropriateness of the location of the appliance
7. Gas soundness of the appliance.

Registered Gas Installers (RGI) may restore gas to a gas installation following a "Safety Isolation" (i.e. after rectification of the hazard) by following the procedure below:

1. Refer to the Notification of Hazard issued to the customer and complete repair works on the installation
2. Carry out a full inspection on the installation and the associated appliances (Refer to Annex E of I.S. 813/I.S. EN 1949). This will include a Soundness test at operating pressure. If the pipework has been altered refer to section 13.2 of I.S. 813/I.S. EN 1949
3. **Notes:** When carrying out the soundness test that a sealing disc may be fitted on the meter outlet
4. The gas supply may be restored by one of the following means depending on the safety isolation in place:
 - A. Unlock the clamp on the meter isolation valve
 - B. Remove cap on inlet pipework and reconnect the pipework to the meter
 - C. Remove Meter Sealing Disc on the outlet of the meter. Note only one meter washer must be used to seal the connection
5. Commission all appliances and complete the Annex E check
6. Ensure that no "Recalled Appliances" are connected (Refer to Recalled Appliances Technical Bulletin available from RGI Tel: 1850 454 454 or download from www.rgi.ie)
7. Complete this Declaration of Conformance certificate. Issue the white copy to the customer
8. Contact Gas Networks Ireland on 1850 211 540 or Gas Supplier to report the completion of gas restoration works. You will be asked to provide the Declaration of Conformance Certificate number and the meter reading. Call staff are available from 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday and from 9am to 5.30pm on Saturdays. If works take place outside these hours contact Gas Networks Ireland/ Gas Supplier with the details at the earliest opportunity
9. Remove the Safety Isolation Warning Label and attach to the green copy of the Declaration of Conformance. **The label and the Declaration must be returned together** as soon as possible (but no later than 20 working days) to:

REGISTER of GAS INSTALLERS of IRELAND (RGI)
UNIT 9 KCR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
RAVENSDALE PARK
KIMMAGE, DUBLIN 12. ☎ 11 21 9 5 8
Tel 1850 454 454

*Copies of Irish Standard 813 "Domestic Gas Installations"/I.S. EN 1949 Leisure Accommodation Vehicles available from
National Standard Authority Sales, National Standards Authority of Ireland
1 Swift Square, Northwood, Sandy, Dublin 9, Ireland. ☎ 01 8576730
Email: info@standards.ie Tel: 01 8576730 Fax: 01 8576727 www.standards.ie

BLUE



**Gas
Networks
Ireland**

NSAI Standards Update

Since the last Newsletter was published the National Standards Authority of Ireland has issued a revision of I.S. 813. It has also issued I.S. EN 1949 and a National Annex to this standard for application in Ireland. Ann Crotty, secretary of the NSAI Gas Standards Technical Committee, provides some background information and highlights some important issues raised.

I.S. 813 – Domestic gas installations

I.S. 813 is the Irish Standard for Natural gas and LP gas domestic installations and it is now in its third edition.

I.S. 813 is drafted by the Gas Technical Standards Committee (GTSC), Technical Committee (TC) 2 – Installation and appliances. The GTSC has been in operation for over thirty years with numerous industry experts contributing to its work and the development of standards, including I.S. 813.

The first edition of I.S. 813 was published in 1996 and was superseded by Edition 2 in 2002. The third edition was published in January 2014.

The 3rd edition of I.S. 813 is the first revision of the standard since it was included as part of the gas installer registration scheme which requires all domestic gas installations to be installed to this Standard. I.S. 813:2014 is referenced in Statutory Instrument S.I. 299:2011. Edition 3 has some important changes from its previous edition and these are as follows:

- Clause 10 – Flues; extended
- Clause 11 – Combustion air; dedicated permanent ventilation is now required for all open flued and flueless appliances, see Tables 9 and 10.
- Clause 12 – Pipework testing; a let-by test shall be carried out on the isolation valve before the soundness test (See Annex E)
- Annex C – Servicing domestic gas appliances; like 10.9 the requirements for existing extended concealed flues have increased with carbon monoxide alarms now mandatory in the flue void and it is also recommended that inspection hatches are provided.
- Annex D – The requirements for installing domestic meters has been moved to Irish Standard I.S. 265 - Installation of gas service pipes - Parts 1 and 2. It remains in I.S. 813 for information purposes. Refer to I.S. 265 for meter requirements.
- Annex I – Carbon monoxide

concealed flues now require the installation of inspection hatches along the length of the flue and carbon monoxide alarms in the flue void that can be interlinked to turn off the appliance boiler.

detectors; for every open flued or flueless appliance, including those used solely for cooking, a minimum of 2 carbon monoxide alarms must be installed; 1 in the room with the appliance and one in each bedroom or in the landing within 5 m of the bedroom doors.

This list is not exhaustive and the entire standard should be consulted. An amendment to I.S. 813 is currently underway and the public enquiry will be launched shortly. This will be notified in newspapers and through the RGI and will be accessible on your standards your say, <http://www.nsainep.ie/>.

I.S. EN 1949

I.S. EN 1949 is the Irish standard for the installation of LPG systems for habitation purposes in leisure accommodation vehicles and accommodation purposes in other vehicles and the most recent edition was published in 2011.

In 2013, the NSAI published a National Annex to I.S. EN 1949 that was prepared by GTSC TC 2 – Installation and appliances. This National Annex sets out a method by which existing LPG systems in

vehicles with leisure accommodation, campervans (motor caravan), caravans and mobile homes (caravan holiday home), which have been already constructed and commissioned, are inspected and/or serviced by a competent person (RGI) to ensure that the LPG systems are safe for continued operation.

I.S. EN 1949 +NA:2013 is called up in Statutory Instrument S.I. 299:2011 making it a mandatory standard in Ireland.

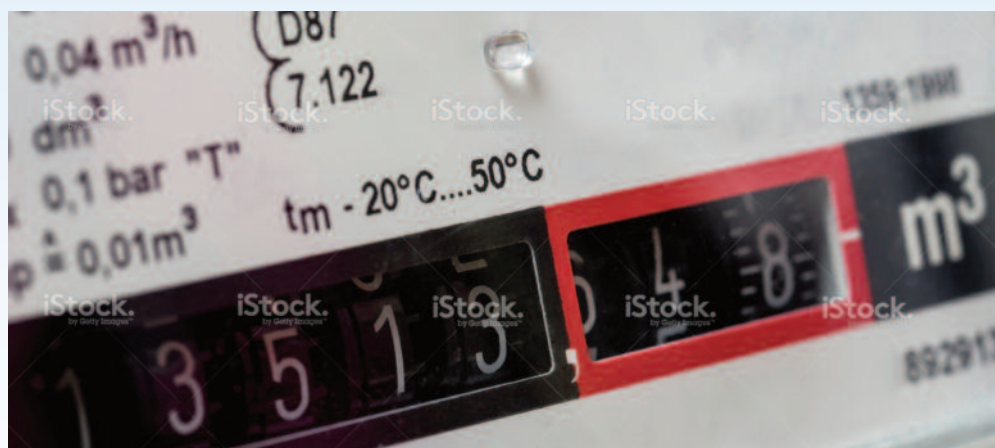
It details safety and health requirements on the selection of materials, components and appliances, on design considerations and tightness testing of installations and on the contents of the user's handbook. Portable appliances, incorporating their own gas supply, are not considered part of the installation and are outside the scope of this Standard. It does not include the installation of LPG appliances to be used for commercial purposes or for boats.

The National Annex covers, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Inspection of existing LPG systems;
- Soundness testing of existing installations;
- Visible condition of accessible gas pipework and flexible connectors;
- Adequacy of air supply;
- Adequacy of flue dispersion;
- Servicing of appliances;
- Carbon monoxide detection;

A new work item has been raised at European level to amend I.S. EN 1949 and GTSC TC 2 is monitoring closely the activity in this area.

Ann Crotty, Secretary of the NSAI Gas Standards Technical Committee (TC2)



The Outlook for the Natural Gas industry in Ireland

As a Registered Gas Installer you will know that natural gas is a versatile, affordable, efficient and clean source of energy that fuels home heating, power generation, industry, cooking, air conditioning and transport. The growing need for energy and the heightened awareness of environmental responsibilities has further increased the importance of natural gas and its role in energy policy now and for the future.

- Natural gas is a trusted, proven fuel source with an existing reliable infrastructure that has been heavily invested in over the years.
- Natural gas plays a key role in Ireland's economic competitiveness. Many key industries depend on natural gas and gas availability is a key criteria for FDI companies when they are deciding where to invest. The IDA recently announced ambitious targets to create 80,000 new jobs over the next five years. The gas industry itself currently supports over 2,000 jobs directly in Ireland.
- Price signals for natural gas until 2021 are very good.

- Natural gas has low carbon emissions relative to other fossil fuels and has superior potential as a reliable complement to renewable energy. Gas can play a key role in helping the government achieve its energy targets now and in supporting its decarbonised future energy plans.
- Outlook for global gas supplies is very positive. Ireland will have 10 year indigenous supply from the Corrib field shortly.

Natural gas continues to deliver many benefits for Ireland, in terms of emission reduction, increasing competitiveness and sustaining security of supply. Realising the full potential of natural gas in a number of key areas such as infill and network extension, together with biogas and gas for transport, will increase the utilisation of the gas network and reduce costs for all gas customers.

Mark Holohan, New Connections National Manager, Gas Networks Ireland.



Technical bulletins

The following is a list of all technical bulletins issued to date by RGIL. They are all available on the RGIL website. If you wish to view them and for any reason you have difficulty accessing these, please contact the office.

- **Jul 15: Managing Risk from Carbon Monoxide as per I.S. 813:2014**
- **Jul 15: Cooker Hoses and Flexible Connections**
- Sep 14: Recalled, Special Interest and Reportable Appliances (revised & re-issued) (replaces old issue Jan 07)
- Mar 12: Glow-worm "xi" range of boilers - product modification and servicing reminder from

Glow-worm

- Jan 12: Concealed Extended Flues - Concealed Flue Advisory Note
- Jun 11: Risk of CO from incorrectly converted boilers
- Apr 11: Risk of electrical fire from circulating pump overheating
- Jan 07: Recalled and Reportable Appliances (see revised issue of Sep 14)
- Apr 06: Terminating pipe for connection to a meter cabinet or multiple meter manifold
- May 05:
 1. Cast Iron / Period Fires
 2. Amendment 1 to I.S. 813:2002 - (Cookers)
- Jan 05: Sulphidation

LPG: A clean, efficient fuel



For over 75 years, Irish homes and businesses have relied on LPG for cooking and heating and many other applications to power business enterprises. Ireland's LPG suppliers, in association with Registered Gas Installers, have provided access throughout the country and on the offshore islands around our coast to all the advantages and benefits of using gas.

LPG, which comes in two products, has many uses. Butane is supplied in various cylinder sizes up to 11Kg capacity. It is used mainly in the domestic sector, for cooking, spot heating, BBQs, in caravans and boats and in the small end of the hospitality sector.

Propane, which must be stored out of doors, is used mainly for heating and in the commercial sector. It is supplied in cylinders, in bulk storage tanks and also through metered supply network systems. Propane is widely used for catering, domestic and commercial space and water heating (including CHP) as well as in industrial processes, in construction and in the agricultural sector for grain drying, poultry and pig rearing. It is also used as a vehicle fuel for fork lift trucks, cars, vans and much more. The Olympic torch, for example, a symbol of excellence and permanence across the whole globe relies on LPG to remain burning brightly.

Value for money is increasingly important for customers. Because LPG is highly efficient and suitable

for so many different applications, this allows LPG to make a positive impact on the user's bottom line, while at the same time reducing CO₂ emissions. The Irish LP Gas Association is committed to technology which will lead to a better environment.

LPG is a clean and much more efficient fuel than some traditional fuels, resulting in less energy wastage and much lower emissions. With more and more customers focussing on climate change and sustainability, LPG delivers the green benefits that homeowners and businesses are now looking for.

Convenience and availability are key determinants for many users. LPG can be easily transported and stored and will not deteriorate over time. There is a ready supply available and can be used virtually anywhere in the world as it does not require a fixed distribution network.

With price and environmental issues becoming increasingly more important, gas has a very bright future in Ireland. The LPG sector looks forward to working with Registered Gas Installers, government agencies, designers and users to keep Ireland powering ahead.

Sean McCourt, Chairman Irish LP Gas Association





Carbon Monoxide Awareness week

The recent Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week promoted the dangers associated with carbon monoxide and aimed to educate the general public on how to prevent it. The awareness week is a public safety initiative supported by organisations across the energy sector and related industries as well as safety and public health bodies including the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER), Gas Networks Ireland, Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGI), Oil Firing Technical Association (OFTEC), National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) and major Irish energy retailers.



Extensive advertising ran throughout the week supported by PR activities and as part of the awareness week the media campaign this year focussed on Tommy McAnairey, the central ambassador to the campaign. Tommy, a singing canary created to drive awareness about carbon monoxide, released a single 'Carbon Monoxide is Lethal as Hell' on the 18th of September.

Product Recall

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight a recent product recall:

25/08/2015: Carbon Monoxide Detector sold under the brand ALECTO

This carbon monoxide detector does not respond to high concentrations of carbon monoxide. The product does not comply with the relevant European standard EN 50291-1 and may lead to a risk of asphyxiation.