

RGI NEWS

RGII ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2010



Statement from the Commission for Energy Regulation

The Commission for Energy Regulation ("CER") is very pleased with the overall progress and implementation of the Registered Gas Installer ("RGI") scheme since its inception in June 2009. Key to the success of the scheme has been the uptake in registrations throughout 2009. Over 2,600 installers have registered with the Registered Gas Installers of Ireland ("RGII") since June 2009, showing a real commitment by the industry to gas safety.

The CER continues to work closely with the RGII and other industry bodies to increase the awareness among the public of the new RGI scheme. During 2009 an advertising campaign was undertaken by the CER in conjunction with Bord Gáis to promote the scheme and to encourage customers to actively seek an RGI. With the RGI brand now established, the CER and Bord Gáis will launch a new promotional campaign focusing on customer awareness in 2010. The CER also continues to actively monitor compliance with the new RGI scheme and has very significant powers in relation to breaches of the legislation by non registered parties and will prosecute those found to be in breach of the law.

2010 will see the Commission, following the enactment of legislation, incorporating Liquefied Petroleum Gas Installers into the RGI scheme and focusing on LPG issues. Also underway will be the migration of Gas Installer Domestic and Gas Installer Safety courses into recognised FETAC awards along with the creation of a new safety course for Non-Domestic Installations.

The CER is looking forward and remains committed to working with industry stakeholders throughout 2010 to build upon the success already achieved by the RGII and the RGI scheme.

We wish everyone a Happy, Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Paul McGowan
Director of Safety
Commission for Energy Regulation

Welcome to RGII

Welcome to the RGI Newsletter and the first from the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGII). Let me first wish all Registered Gas Installers a healthy and prosperous new year. May it be better than the last and hopefully a busy time for all.

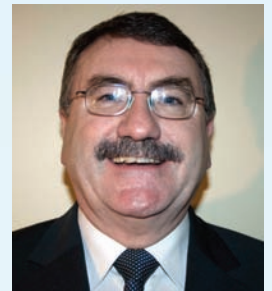
I would like to take this opportunity to thank some people for getting RGI up and running since commencement in June 2009. We really appreciate the efforts made by all the staff in the CER, BGE, RECI and RGII and, especially, the members of the Installer Review Panel, who have put quite some time and effort into helping make this registration scheme a reality.

It is our intention to ensure that the scheme achieves the goals set for the industry by the Commission for Energy Regulation. Our mission is to protect the interests of the public while providing an efficient and friendly service the Gas Installers, ensuring the achievement of the highest levels of safety. Based on our experience so far, we are certain that the installer body is fully committed to this approach. We look forward to a continuing effective relationship with you over the coming years.

I would like to welcome William Wilson as Inspections Manager to the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland. Coming from the position of National Inspections Manager with Bord Gáis, William brings a vast amount of experience to the position and will ensure a smooth transition from the previous voluntary registration scheme, run by Bord Gáis Networks, to the now statutory RGII scheme.

I would also like to welcome the five RGII inspectors Mick, John, Eddie, Terry and Kieran. They come with an average of thirty years experience each in gas and gas safety. Significantly, these inspectors have spent the last ten years in the Inspection and Audit area. Their experience will ensure a first class technical back up for gas installers in relation to standards and safety, in conforming with current standards and regulations. Please feel free to contact any of the inspectors for clarification on the gas installation standards or the registration scheme.

A big welcome also to Samantha and Sinead, our two admin staff always at the end of the phone with a friendly voice, ready to deal with your problems.



Mr Ed Mc Donnell, Chairman RGII

In the last six months RGII has registered 2669 gas installer's and 537 Company's. We are now in the process of renewing registration for the year 2010.

In 2009 an intensive advertisement campaign of public awareness was undertaken by the CER, BGE and RGII. This will continue into 2010 with a new TV ad in March highlighting three main messages for all gas customers:

- to be safe use only an RGI,
- have your boiler serviced annually and
- make sure to get a declaration of conformance certificate from your gas installer.

The profile of the RGI will be very much highlighted by this campaign. It is up to all of us to ensure that, by our full commitment to safety and compliance with the legislation, it also results in the standing with the public of both installers and RGII being enhanced. Together, we can decide the future landscape in which the industry operates. We at RGII are committed to working with all the stakeholders to ensure that this landscape reflects the ambitions of the RGII Mission Statement. For us to achieve this we must make sure, together, that our actions reflect the words of this statement. It is my belief that we are on the right road regarding the issues to be faced and I am looking forward to the future success of the scheme. This is certain to be achieved as long as we continue to work together as we have done during this initial period.

Ed Mc Donnell
Chairman

The Regulation of Gas Installers

Since 2006, the **Commission for Energy Regulation (C.E.R.)** has worked with the gas industry to put in place a new regulatory system to supervise the work of gas installers with respect to SAFETY. This new statutory-based regulatory system has replaced the previous voluntary register operated by Bord Gáis.

The CER has appointed The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGI) as The Gas Safety Supervisory Body (GSSB).

R.G.I.I. is a wholly owned subsidiary of R.E.C.I and is responsible for the registering of gas installers and regulating their activities with respect to a safety. R.G.I.I. will carry out this function on behalf of the Commission for Energy Regulation as set down in the **Criteria Document version 1, 25th July 2008 (available at www.cer.ie)**.

On the 26th June 2009 the C.E.R. enacted the **Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006** which makes it illegal for any person who is not a **Registered Gas Installer (R.G.I.)** registered with the G.S.S.B. (R.G.I.I.) to undertake **"Gas Work"**. It also became a legal requirement for all R.G.I.'s to issue a **Declaration of Conformance** (completion cert) for all "Gas Work" carried out. Individuals who carry out "Gas Works" who are not registered will be subject to criminal proceedings. It is the C.E.R.'s responsibility to proceed with such prosecutions where necessary under the Act.

The C.E.R. Definition for the Scope "Gas Work" CER/09/083 (www.cer.ie).

Summarised: For the purposes of section 9G(3) of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999, 'works which are *gas works*' means the installation, removal, repair, servicing, maintenance or replacement (or any combination of the foregoing) of a Natural Gas Fitting covered by I.S. 813:2002 which is:

- (a) used or designed to be used by a Domestic Gas Customer; or
- (b) which is designed to be used by a Domestic Gas Customer but which is installed in a Commercial or an Industrial Premises;

This including all domestic appliances designed to be used by domestic customers, where they are used by both commercial and industrial customers.

Guidance notes (**CER/09/083-B**) for the recently enacted "Gas Works" regulations are available at www.cer.ie.

How to become a Registered Gas Installer

All individuals who wish to undertake "gas works" must be registered, it's the Law. In order to apply for registration you must:

- ✓ Hold a GID award or equivalent
- ✓ Hold the appropriate commercial insurance
- ✓ Pay the appropriate membership fee
- ✓ Sign and accept the rules of registration

It is an offence under the 2006 Act for a person to:

- A. Describe oneself as an RGI or in a manner likely to suggest he/she is a RGI unless that person is a RGI; and
- B. Carry out "Gas Work" if you are not a RGI, a Gas Transmission System Operator, a Gas Distribution System Operator, a Gas Emergency Officer or a Gas Safety Officer.

Any person who contravenes A or B above is guilty of an offence and liable –

1. On summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €5,000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 6 months or to both, or
2. On conviction on indictment to a fine not exceeding €15,000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or both.

The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland



The Commission for Energy Regulation after a successful tendering process has appointed The **Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (R.G.I.I.)** as **The Gas Safety Supervisory Body (G.S.S.B.)**. Initially for a period of seven years at which time the tendering process will take place again. R.G.I.I. is a company limited by guarantee (self financing and not for profit) with the sole purpose of operating as the G.S.S.B. The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland is a wholly owned subsidiary of R.E.C.I and is responsible for the registering of gas installers and regulating their activities with respect to gas safety.

R.G.I.I. Organisation Board of Directors

Chairman E Mc Donnell (ILPGA),

J Desmond (RECI), I Hammond (RECI) Liam Nolan (BGE), Stella Corrigan (BGE), Fergal Finn (NSAI),

General Manager David McGloughlin



David McGloughlin, General Manager

Regulatory Affairs /Quality Manager Roger Muller

Administration/Registration Samantha Somers 01 4997998, Sinead Kearns

Inspections Manager

William Wilson 01 4999836

Inspectors

Michel Donnelly 0876174468, John Dunne 0872114826, Eddie Gannon 0879879024, Kieran Kelleher 0876750415, Terry Murphy 0876750418.

The core activities of The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland are

- Registering Gas Installer's (R.G.I.)
- Inspection and Audit of Registered Gas Installers and their work
- Controlling the use of Declaration of Conformance Certificates
- Ensuring Installers meet the requirements laid down in the Criteria Document and that their installations conform to the Domestic Gas Installation Standard I.S.813
- Investigating Illegal Gas Works
- Investigating /resolving customer complaints relating to the safety of R.GI's work
- Creating public awareness of the legislative requirements for registration

Current Installer Representative Panel Chris Ahearne, James Brereton, Pat Kelleher, Sean Giffney, Pat O'Shaughnessy, Jimmy Egan

The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (R.G.I.I.) is neither a trade association nor a representative body for Gas Installers and is specifically prohibited for acting as such by the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006.

Declaration of Conformance's (Completion Certificates)

Summary of the Requirement

The Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006

"Where a Registered Gas Installer carries out any "Gas Work", the Registered Gas Installer (R.G.I.) concerned shall issue the appropriate Completion Certificate to the person who requested the work to be carried out".

The C.E.R. Definition for the Scope of "Gas Works" is set out in its final decision paper CER/09/083 (www.cer.ie) and was given legal effect in the Regulations signed by the CER pursuant to Section 13 of the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 (the '2006 Act'). These "Gas Works" Regulations were enacted on 26th June 2009 and defines

"Gas Works" as follows:

For the purpose of section 9G(3) of the Act "works which are "Gas Works" means the installation, removal, repair, servicing, maintenance or replacement (or any combination of the foregoing) of a Natural Gas Fitting(inc appliances) covered by I.S. 813 which is:

- (a) used or designed to be used by a Domestic Gas Customers; or
- (b) which is designed to be used by a Domestic Gas Customer but which installed in a Commercial or an Industrial Premises.

The 2006 Act makes it mandatory for an R.G.I. to issue a Completion Certificate for all "Gas Work" carried out, (it's the Law). All reference to Declaration of Conformance Certificates throughout this document shall be construed as meaning Completion Certificates supplied by the G.S.S.B. (RGII) for the purpose of the 2006 Act. An R.G.I. is only permitted to certify his or her own work.

Declarations of Conformance Certificates are available from R.G.I.I.

To facilitate the wide range of "Gas Works" undertaken by R.G.I.'s there are three different types of Declaration of Conformance Certificate:

CERT 1: For NEW OR EXISTING GAS INSTALLATIONS REQUIRING A NEW METER FIT i.e. requiring a connection to the gas network (Gas Network operator *will not fit* a new gas meter without picking up a copy of cert 1 on site)
Cost of Cert 1: sold singly €30.00 ex vat

CERT 2: For BOILER REPLACEMENT on existing gas installations with a gas meter already fitted
Cost of Cert 2: books of 10, €80.00 ex vat

CERT 3: For EXISTING GAS INSTALLATIONS with a gas meter already fitted to cover all other "Gas Work" i.e. all appliance fits, (except boilers) pipework, safety check, repair work and servicing of gas appliances etc.
Cost of Cert 3: book of 10, €20.00 ex vat. book of 50, €100 ex vat

Completing a Declaration of Conformance Certificates

It's imperative when filling out the details on the conformance certificates that:

- ✓ All the fields are completed.i.e type of gas, type of installation, appliance types/location, R.G.I. name and R.G.I number date of tests, date of issue, signature etc.
- ✓ The Gas Point Registration Number(GPRN) must be entered (available from customers bill or BGE)
- ✓ All details are in BLOCK CAPITALS and legible 'Print' at all times
- ✓ The original is issued to customer immediately on completion of "Gas Work"
- ✓ The R.G.I.I. copy (green) is returned to R.G.I.I. within 10 days of issue.

Gas Installation Standards for Registered Gas Installers

The Standard for Domestic Gas Installations is Irish Standard 813 (I.S.813)

This standard is issued by The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI)

At present the legislation requiring Gas Installers (i.e. all operatives carrying out "Gas Works") to be registered and specifies a particular category of work i.e. "Gas works" means the installation, removal, repair, servicing, maintenance or replacement (or any combination of the foregoing) of a Natural Gas Fitting covered by I.S. 813.

All Registered Gas Installers (R.G.I.) must have a copy of this standard and must work to this standard at all times. All inspections and audits carry out by The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland on Registered Gas Installers, completed work or work in progress will be for compliance with this standard.

*Copies of Irish Standard 813 "Domestic Gas Installations" is available from R.G.I.I. or the National Standard Authority
Email: info@standards.ie
Tel: 01 8576730 Fax: 01 8576729
www.standards.ie



Change of Installer Procedure

In a situation where a customer requires a change of installer to complete and/or certify "Gas Work" which was partially or totally carried out by a different Installer the customer and new installer must first obtain authorisation from The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland.

The change of Installer form must be completed for each installation and submitted to RGII, Unit 9 KCR Industrial Estate, Kimmage, Dublin 12 or by fax to 01 492 9983 or email to info@RGII.ie.

This form may be downloaded from the RGII website www.rgii.ie or it will be posted or faxed on request by the RGII office. (Tel: 01 4997998.)

It is a requirement of this procedure that The Register of Gas installers of Ireland must inspect the installation at the time of commissioning and testing by the new Installer. There will be a fee for this inspection which must be submitted with each Change of Installer form, effective from January 2010.

On receipt of the form and inspection fee RGII will contact the original Installer to give him/her the opportunity to confirm his/her position.

If the original Installer is an RGI it is preferable that he/she should complete and/or certify the installation. However if this is not possible due to

circumstances beyond the control of the installer or due to a commercial dispute then RGII having obtained any information they require may authorise the new Installer to complete and/or certify the installation.

The new RGI Installer can then issue a Declaration of Conformance Certificate which will allow the Networks Operator (BGE) to fit a meter. The new Installer must contact RGII and arrange an appointment for an RGII Inspector to be present when the installation is being commissioned and to confirm that the installation complies with I.S. 813 and is safe for the supply of gas.

Notification of Hazard (unsafe situations)

Annex E of the Irish Standard for Domestic Gas Installations I.S. 813 sets out a method by which existing gas installations already constructed and commissioned shall be inspected by a competent person (R.G.I.) to ensure that the gas installations are safe to continue in operation.

Scope of this inspection (at a minimum)

The following should be checked:

- ✓ Soundness of the installation and connected appliances
- ✓ Visible condition of accessible gas pipework and flexible connections
- ✓ Adequacy of fixed air supply
- ✓ Effectiveness of any flue or chimney
- ✓ Appropriateness of appliance location.

Safety Actions

A Registered Gas Installer has a duty of care where a hazard is identified to issue a Notification of Hazard to the owner/occupier (original white copy). To return a copy to R.G.I.I. (yellow copy) and to retain a copy for his/her records (blue copy). The competent person (R.G.I.) may decide in the interest of safety to isolate the gas supply to the installation or part thereof or to any appliance if deemed appropriate any isolation shall be such as

to require the use of tools to restore supply.

If isolating the gas at the meter the network operator must be informed i.e. Bord Gáis 1850205050. Notification of Hazards are supplied free of charge from R.G.I.I. and on this occasion a book of 10 is supplied to every RGI with this newsletter.



Think safe, be safe

RGI Installer Review Panel

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the Review Panel is to enable RGI to discuss matters relating to its role as the Gas Safety Supervisory Body with representatives of Registered Gas Installers.

Membership

The RGI Panel will be made up of members nominated by RGI and six Installer Representatives elected by Registered Gas Installers.

Installer representatives will be elected on a regional basis.

Leinster	3 Representatives
Munster	2 Representatives
Connaught / Ulster	1 Representative

The Installer Representatives from the Bord Gais Review Panel will be the representatives on this Panel until April 2010.

The RGI General Manager will act as Chairman of the meetings.

MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the RGI offices. The date & frequency of the meetings will be decided by the Panel from time to time.

AGENDA AND REPORTS

Panel members may propose items for the agenda up to 10 working days ahead of a meeting.

RGI shall circulate the meeting agenda to the membership in advance of the meeting date.

REMOVAL FROM PANEL

A representative may be removed from the panel for any of the following reasons:

- Cease to be a Registered Gas Installer
- Fail to declare a conflict of interest
- Fail to attend three consecutive meeting

CONFIDENTIALITY

Each member shall maintain full confidentiality and discretion in respect of all matters that come before the panel, which are designated as confidential by the Chairman.

NOMINATIONS FOR PANEL MEMBERS

An election, in which all R.G.I.s are entitled to vote will be held before the end of April 2010. The first step is to nominate candidates from each region. A nomination form will be posted to every R.G.I. in the near future. Candidates must be proposed and seconded by full R.G.I.s from the appropriate region.

Restoring Gas Supply After a “Safety Isolation” Following a Notice of Hazard

The Network Operator (BGE) and or a RGI may from time to time “Safety Isolated” a gas customer and issued a Notice of Hazard.

A Registered Gas Installer (R.G.I.) may restore gas to a natural gas installation following a “Safety Isolation”, provided the R.G.I. follows the following procedure **to the letter**.

- ✓ Refer to the Notification of Hazard issued to the customer and complete repair works on the installation
- ✓ **Carry out a full I.S. 813 Annex E inspection** on the installation and the associated appliances this will include a soundness test at operating pressure. If the pipework has been altered refer to section 13.2 of I.S. 813 (this is mandatory).

Note: When carrying out the soundness test that a sealing disc may be fitted on the outlet of the gas meter. The disc if fitted must be removed before testing

- ✓ 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 (keys available from R.G.I.I.)
 - b. Remove cap on inlet pipework and reconnect the pipework to the meter
 - c. Remove meter sealing disc fitted in the

outlet of the meter. Note only one meter washer must be used to re-seal this connection

- ✓ Commission all appliances and complete the Annex E safety check
- ✓ Ensure that no ‘Recalled Appliances’ are connected (Refer to Recalled Appliances Technical Bulletin available at www.rgii.ie)
- ✓ Complete The Declaration of Conformance Certificate (CERT.3 repair and safety check). Issue the white copy to the customer
- ✓ **You must contact Bord Gáis Networks on 1850 211 540 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 Bord Gáis Networks with the details at the earliest opportunity
- ✓ Remove the Safety Isolation Warning Label (if fitted) at the meter and attach the label to the green copy of the Declaration of Conformance. The label and the Declaration of Conformance must be returned together as soon as possible (but no later than 10 days) to: REGISTER of GAS INSTALLERS of IRELAND (R.G.I.I.)

Inspection/Audit

Inspection and Audit Programme for Registered Gas Installers

Scope

This document defines the inspection and audit programme for Registered Gas Installers and is available at www.rgii.ie. The purpose of the inspection and audit process is to ensure the RGI has the appropriate equipment and knowledge to work on gas installations safely and that the gas installations conform to the Standard for Domestic Gas Installations I.S.813.

The programme was developed using the perceived safety risks relating to each category of gas installer and their competency/experience levels.

The requirements of the criteria document were also considered when drawing up this programme. **It is a requirement of the criteria document and the rules of registration that all RGI make themselves available for inspection and audit when required. Failure to comply will result in a revision of your registration status.**

Application

The document is intended as a guide and will be amended from time to time on analyses of the performance of the individual Registered Gas Installers after completed inspections/audits using the performance marking scheme

Undertaking Inspection

Inspections are carried out by the RGII Inspectors using the Inspection/Audit criteria (and I.S. 813) for New and Existing installations (Annex E) in conjunction with the inspection/audit report form for the task undertaken .i.e. New Installation and Existing Installation (Annex E)

Inspection Criteria and Performance marking scheme

Scope

This document defines the inspection criteria and performance marking scheme (penalty points) to be applied when inspecting RGI and their work (available at www.rgii.ie) to ensure safety and compliance with Irish Standard 813 'Domestic Gas Installations.

Information contained in this document is intended to comply with I.S. 813 and the contents of this document can not either conflict with or supersede the requirements of I.S. 813.

Application

This document is intended as a guide, for suitably qualified and experienced personnel, carrying out inspections for safety of domestic gas installations using inspection/audit report form.

Undertaking Inspection

As a general rule the inspection consists of two aspects;

- **Pipe-work and Gas Soundness**, which should include visual inspection of visible pipe-work between gas supply valve and appliance valve(s) throughout the premises and soundness testing of same. Record results on inspection/audit form.
- **And Appliances**, as each appliance type has specific requirements relating to its safe installation and use, each appliance will be inspected in aspects required on the RGII inspection/audit form and results recorded

Identifying, Classifying and Coding / Performance marking of Safety Risks

To assist in the task of safety inspection and reporting to RGII, this document sets out a method of classifying non-conformances by relating them to the perceived risk. The inspector will apply performance marking based on the safety risks identified using his experience and knowledge.

Code Definitions, Performance marking

Code Red, Performance marking 10 points

Codes an installation, or aspect thereof, not conforming to I.S. 813, where the immediate or direct result of its intended use could cause a hazard to persons or property.

Code Orange, Performance marking 5 points

Serious codes an installation or aspect thereof, which does not conform to I.S.813.

Code Lemon, Performance marking 1 point

Minor codes an installation or aspect thereof, which does not conform to I.S. 813.

Code Green, Performance marking 0 point

Codes an installation conforming to I.S. 813.

Actions

Safety and other Actions to be taken by appropriate persons on assignment of a code are described briefly as follows:

Code Red, Performance marking 10 points

RGII Inspector

Issue 'Notice of Hazard'

Isolate installation or appropriate part thereof, and inform user.

Notify RGI immediately, requesting rectification.

Return information to RGII.

RGI

RGI is required to confirm the rectification in writing and also using part G20 of inspection/audit to RGII within 24 hours.

RGII

RGII to review installer status as an RGI through the disciplinary procedure if necessary.

Code Orange, Performance marking 5 points

RGII Inspector

Issue 'Notice of Hazard', inform user and return information same day to RGII.

RGII

RGII issue a letter on the next working day, advising the RGI of the potential hazard and requesting full rectification.

RGI

Should rectify within three working days and confirm rectification in writing and also using part G20 of inspection/audit form to RGII within 14 days.

Inspectors Profile



John Dunne is married with three children. John lives in Bray Co Wicklow and a keen golfer in his spare time. John has worked in the gas industry for 36 years and has been involved in every aspect of gas work including emergency response, accident investigation since 1973. John has inspected gas installations for compliance with the standard for the last 16 years. John's area of operation covers Dublin and the South East of the country. John is available any time for technical advice relating to gas safety issues and has in-depth knowledge of the Standard for Domestic Gas Installations I.S. 813.

You can contact John at 087 221 4826

Code Lemon, Performance marking 1 point

RGII Inspector

Inform user and return information same day to RGII.

RGII

RGII issue a letter on the next working day, advising RGI of potential hazard and requesting full rectification.

RGI

Should effect full rectification within 21 days and confirm rectification in writing also using part G20 of inspection/audit form to RGII within a further 14 days.

Code Green

RGII Inspector

Return Inspection form to the RGII office.

Visit www.rgii.ie and view this complete document for samples of risks and coding

Register of Gas Installers of Ireland



REGISTERED
RGII
GAS INSTALLER

Unit 9
KCR Ind. Est.,
Kimmage,
Dublin 1
Tel: 1850 454 454
Fax: 01 4929983



ID P0071 **Installer**
Name Joe Plumber
Company EZ Plumbing
Valid from 01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010 **RGII**

Public Awareness Publicity Campaign for RGI

As an RGI you should promote the brand and logo, it makes good business sense

A Press Release was issued by the Commission on the 26th June 2009 to coincide with the Gas Works Regulations and was circulated to media outlets country-wide.

- A media – radio and newspaper campaign was undertaken in July for a two week burst. This was repeated in September. A follow-up campaign was run in October and November.
- The National Consumer Agency was contacted with respect to the new system and their website contains the following information: www.irishconsumer.ie News on RGI
- 250 suppliers of gas appliances in Ireland were sent a cover letter, posters and flyers advising that it is now the law that domestic appliances can only be installed by a RGI. Some suppliers then asked if the CER could design a sticker to put on each appliance advising that only an RGI can install this appliance. The CER designed such a sticker and R.G.I.I. forwarded it to all requesting suppliers;
- Letters were sent to all Local Authorities Housing Departments to notify regarding the legal obligation upon landlords and homeowners to ensure that any natural gas fitting is safely maintained after the point of delivery of natural gas;
- An article on the RGII was included in Bord Gais Energy Supply's 'At Home' magazine and included as a bill insert in its July/August bill run to all its gas customers
- A letter was sent to the Irish Property Owners Association (IPOA) advising them of landlords and homeowners responsibilities under the 2006 Miscellaneous Provisions Act and the Housing (Standards for Rental Houses) Regulations 2008 to get their appliances regularly serviced. The IPOA have since included an article in their September publication
- The Carbon Monoxide Awareness website has useful information with respect to always using an RGI and recommends that persons get their appliances serviced on an annual basis. See the following link: www.carbonmonoxide.ie
- In October, a bill insert was included in all gas customers bills promoting the RGII, the requirement to use an RGI and the recommendation that all users of gas appliances get them serviced annually
- In March 2010 a new RGI TV advertisement campaign will begin followed immediately by a press advertisements campaign

Both the RGII and the CER will listen to any ideas that RGI's may have in relation to how best to promote the brand and scheme to gas customers.

Terms and condition of use of the RGI logo



Guidelines for the use of the RGI Logo

Under the 2006 Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) has responsibility for regulating the activities of natural gas installers from a safety perspective. In accordance with the Act, the CER has appointed the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGII) to operate as the Gas Safety Supervisory Body and to carry out this safety function on behalf of the CER. Bord Gáis Éireann has assigned the Registered Gas Installers logo (the RGI Logo) to the CER. At all times the RGI Logo is the property of the CER and incorrect use must be corrected without delay by the user. Only RGII members are permitted by the CER to use the RGI Logo.

From June 26th 2009, all natural gas installers must be registered with the RGII in order to carry out domestic natural gas works. It will be an offence for any person to carry out domestic natural gas works unless they are a Registered Gas Installer with RGII.

The following guidelines provide the conditions for use of the RGI Logo. The RGI Logo is essentially your seal of approval that you operate to the recognised industry standards. If you have any queries with regard to the permitted use of the RGI Logo or would like further information, please refer to www.cer.ie.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the conditions governing the use of the RGI Logo.
- 1.2 These conditions shall be met by all Registered Gas Installers.
- 1.3 The Commission for Energy Regulation will keep under review and may amend these conditions of use of the RGI Logo from time to time.

2. Use of the RGI Logo

- 2.1 Only Registered Gas Installers are entitled to use the RGI Logo in connection with the promotion and provision of the Registered Gas Installer's services on business documentation, including stationary and electronic media, and/or vehicles.
- 2.2 The RGI Logo is the property of the Commission for Energy Regulation and must be used in accordance with the Registered Gas Installer Rules of Registration and these conditions of use.
- 2.3 Incorrect or inappropriate applications of the RGI Logo must be corrected without delay by the RGI. Any misuse of the RGI Logo should be reported to the Commission for Energy Regulation immediately, Tel: 01 4000 800.

- 2.4 On revocation or withdrawal of registration, the company/sole trader shall immediately cease to issue documentation or literature in print or electronically, displaying the RGI Logo or implying in any way that they continue to be a Registered Gas Installer.

3. Reproduction of RGI Logo

3.1 Use of Colour

The RGI Logo may be produced in the specified colours only. The RGI Logo colours are: Blue: PMS 3015, Red: PMS 704, Light Blue: PMS 290.

Colours should not be substituted for one another or for any other colour.

Should these three colours not be available then the RGI Logo should be reproduced in black. In single colour printing, the RGI Logo must be reproduced in black.

3.2 Size of Logo

The RGI Logo may be printed in any size above the minimum size of 15mm in width, provided it is legible and proportional to the specimens in the illustrations shown in this document. The RGI Logo must not be more than 50% of the main company logo.

3.3 Logo Size Guide

Smallest size anywhere: **15mm**

Largest size: **50% of the main company logo**

3.4 RGI Logo in Conjunction with Company Logo and other Accreditations

The RGI logo must not be more than 50% of the main company logo. Other accreditations should not be more prominent than the RGI logo. The logo of the Gas Safety Supervisory Body (RGII) should not be more prominent than the RGI Logo.

3.5 Number of Times of Use

The RGI Logo may only be used once per page of stationary, van side or other items.

3.6 Correct use of Logo in Reverse

When the RGI Logo appears in reverse i.e. on a coloured background, the lettering must always appear on a white background.

3.7 Van Applications

The RGI Logo may be applied to any vehicle regardless of its paint colour. However, the RGI Logo lettering must always be on a white background enclosed within the entire shape of the rectangle and the gas flame motif. Please refer to section 3.6, "Correct use of Logo in Reverse," with the reverse colour being the body of the vehicle.

Further Clarification

Any queries relating to the RGI Logo or its use can be forwarded to: Safety Team, Commission for Energy Regulation, The Exchange, Belgard Square North, Dublin 24.

Tel: +353 1 4000 800

Fax: +353 1 4000 850

Email: info@cer.ie

Technical Bulletin (Important safety information for all RGI)

Internal and buried pipework

Summary of the requirements for installation pipework as specified by I.S.813 (see standard for total requirements).

Material selection

The selection of materials, fittings and jointing methods shall be appropriate for the type of gas being distributed, the pipework design pressure, and the location of the pipework.

The operating temperature under normal operating conditions and any potentially corrosive environment.

Installation

Any person who constructs gas pipework shall be a competent and a registered person.

EXTERNAL BURIED PIPEWORK

External buried pipework shall be constructed as follows. Protected against corrosion by being non-metallic, plastic coated or suitably wrapped throughout its entire length, metallic joints shall be wrapped with a minimum of two layers, compression fittings shall not be used on buried metallic pipework and pipework shall be tested to ensure it is gas tight before being covered. For further guidance on the installation of underground pipework, see annex G of I.S.813. Pipework in soil shall be bedded in sand or fine filling to a depth of 150mm above and below the pipe. The minimum depth of cover of the pipe shall be 375mm. As an alternative all copper and ferrous pipework in concrete paths or drives not subject to vehicular loading shall either be sleeved or coated, and covered with a minimum of 25mm of concrete. Pipework, which may be subject to vehicular loading, shall be enclosed in a protective sleeve in addition to the minimum depth of cover of 375mm. Ferrous piping shall not be connected directly to copper piping.

INTERNAL BURIED PIPEWORK

Internal pipework buried in concrete shall be constructed as follows. The minimum depth of cover required is 25mm, the pipework shall be adequately protected against corrosion by being plastic coated or suitably wrapped throughout its entire length and any joints wrapped with a minimum of two layers, compression fittings or screwed joints shall not be used on internal buried metallic pipework. Pipework shall be tested to ensure it is gas tight before being covered, provision shall be made, where necessary, to allow for expansion and contraction of the buried pipe, e.g. where gas pipes are laid close to heating system pipes. Joints shall be made by welding, brazing or soldering with capillary fittings.

For testing and commissioning of pipework See clause 13, 14 and 15 of I.S. 813.

Admission of Gas (Purging)

General

A competent and registered person shall supervise the admission of gas. Prior to purging from air to fuel

gas, it is necessary to ensure that the means of isolation of fuel gas supply is, at all times during the purging operation fully in control of the competent person(s) responsible. The responsible person shall also take and maintain measures to prevent the means of isolation from being operated by an unauthorised person.

Purging

Purging procedures should take account of the volume and velocity of the purged gases and the mixing of gas and air. When admitting gas to the pipework, the pressure rise shall be gradual. Precautions shall be taken to prevent any accidental ignition of the purge gas.

Purged gases shall be vented safely by one of the following methods, chosen as appropriate:

- (a) For small volumes the purge gases may be vented through a burner, e.g. a hotplate burner of a cooker. During this operation the room shall be fully ventilated to the outside. Verification of the content of the vented gas may be achieved by turning off the burner, ensuring purged gases have been dispersed, turning on and lighting the burner;
- (b) For larger volumes, using a suitable device, the purge gases may be dispersed outside the building to open air or be flared off in open air. Verification of the content of the vented gas shall be by measurement of the gas concentration. (using appropriate instrument)

Appliances

If appliances are not installed when gas is admitted to the pipework, the valves or fittings installed for connecting the appliances shall be sealed in an appropriate manner (e.g. cap, plug). If appliances are installed when gas is admitted to the pipework, then the appliance valves shall be left in the closed position pending the commissioning of the appliances.

Commissioning requirements

Prior to putting the completed installation into service, the competent and registered person shall ensure that the user is issued with a declaration of conformity in accordance with requirements of legislation. That the gas installation pipework is purged of air, that appliances are adjusted to their correct gas rate, that any appliance controls are checked for correct operation, that the user is properly instructed.

Instructing the user

The competent and registered person shall ensure that the person responsible for the premises and/or operation of the installation shall be properly instructed in their safe use and operation. Such instructions shall include, a document indicating the location of the installation pipework, a document indicating the location of the gas supply isolating valve, actions to be taken in the event of an escape of gas, the hand-over of manufacturer's instructions relating to the use and care of any appliances which

shall include, lighting any appliances, normal operation of any appliances, cleaning and servicing requirements (see annex C of I.S.813). Emphasising the necessity that any user removable components be replaced correctly, the importance of avoiding the blockage of any air supply to appliance(s). The importance of keeping the flueways clear, a document indicating the potential scalding hazard which may arise if the hot water temperature is set above 60°C.

Urgent Safety Warning Important Cooker Recall

From Beko, and Glen Dimplex Home appliances. Enclosed with this newsletter is very important recall information for a cooking appliance. Please read this carefully and contact the manufacturers should you find one of these cookers in the course of your day to day work. There have been a number of fatalities both here and in the UK relating to the misuse of this appliance and therefore vigilance is required until all these appliances have been modified.



Report a non-RGI carrying out 'Gas Works' illegally

If you have reason to suspect that someone is working on gas appliances without being RGI registered, please supply the following details. If we need further information we may contact you if you give us your contact details. Thank you for taking the time to supply us with this information.

Non RGI's details: Non RGI's trading name, Contact name, Non RGI's address, Tel, Mobile, Email.

Where was gas work carried out? Occupier name, Address, Tel, Email.

Your details: Full name, Address, Tel, Email.

Details of 'Gas Work' carried out:
Please return to RGI.

Crossword Competition

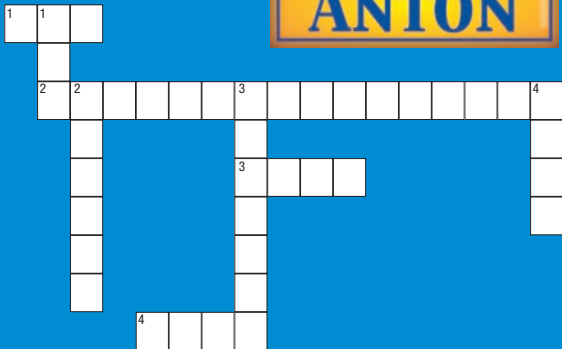


Mike Windsor from 'Anton' presents Claran Sherlock a registered gas installer with CJS Heating and Plumbing Ltd with a Sprint V Anton flue analyser, his prize as winner of the previous RGI crossword competition. Also in attendance is Willie Wilson Inspections Manager with RGI.

You too can win a top of the range Anton Sprint V flue analyser worth more than €650

A must have piece of kit if you intend to install, commission or service open flued or condensing appliances. To enter the competition complete this simple crossword and return to The Register of Gas Installers of Ireland, Unit 9 KCR Industrial Estate, Ravensdale Park, Kimmage, Dublin 12, to be received no later than Friday the 26th February 2010. Don't forget to include your installer number, name, address and phone number. The winner of this fantastic prize sponsored by ANTON will be drawn from the correct entries received before the 26th Feb. The winner will be notified in March.

For all your equipment needs contact Mike Windsor of Anton at 0044 7769 682699 or email Mike at mike@anton-group.com



Across

1. Registered Gas Installer
2. General Manager of RGI
3. The Gas Safety Supervisory Body
4. Cooker Manufacturer recalling appliance

Down

1. Competency/Training award required for registration
2. Safety inspections for existing installations as per standard I.S.813
3. Declaration of Conformance for boiler replacement
4. The National Standards Authority of Ireland



Questions and Answers with the Inspections Manager Willie Wilson

Joe: Why do I need to be registered?

Willie: It's the Law. On the 26th June 2009 the C.E.R. enacted The Energy (miscellaneous provisions) act 2006 which makes it illegal for any person who is not a Registered Gas Installer (R.G.I.) registered with the G.S.S.B. (R.G.I.) to undertake "Gas Work".

Joe: What is the Criteria Document about?

Willie: The Criteria Document sets out clear and transparent rules for the Registered Gas Installer, the Gas Safety Supervisory Body (RGI) and other relevant parties under the Regulatory System.

Joe: What is classified as "Gas Works?"

Willie: "Gas Works" means the installation, removal, repair, servicing, maintenance or replacement (or any combination of the foregoing) of a Natural Gas Fitting (inc appliances) covered by I.S. 813 which is, used or designed to be used by a Domestic Gas Customers or which is designed to be used by a Domestic Gas Customer but which installed in a Commercial or an Industrial Premises.

Joe: Can I just do the Gas pipeline for a non-RGI and certify that?

Willie: No. You must site the appliance, fit the flue, the ventilation, the gas line, commission the installation and issue the Cert and hand over the installation to the customer. All or any part of the above is classified as 'Gas Works'.

Joe: Why do I need to Issue a Declaration of Conformance (cert)?

Willie: It's the Law the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 specifies

"Where a Registered Gas Installer carries out any "Gas Work", the Registered Gas Installer (R.G.I.) concerned shall issue the appropriate Completion Certificate to the person who requested the work to be carried out".

Joe: When do I need to issue a Declaration of Conformance (cert)?

Willie: Every time you install, remove, repair, service, maintain or replace (or any combination of the foregoing) a Natural Gas Fitting (inc appliances or part thereof) covered by I.S. 813.

Joe: Which Declaration of Conformance (cert) must I use?

Willie: Where a new gas meter is required CERT 1. Where you replace or install a boiler CERT 2. All other "Gas Work" i.e. all appliance fits, (except boilers) pipework, safety check, repair work and servicing of gas appliances etc. CERT 3.

Joe: Why must I pay for the Declaration of Conformance (cert)?

Willie: The revenue from the sale of the Declaration of Conformance certificate helps fund R.G.I.I. R.G.I.I. is a company limited by guarantee (self financing and not for profit) with the sole purpose of operating as the Gas Safety Supervisory Body.

Joe: What Standard must I work to?

Willie: The Standard for "Domestic Gas Installations" issued by the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) Irish Standard 813 (I.S.813) www.standards.ie

Joe: What is a Notice of Hazard?

Willie: A note to the customer that you have uncovered an unsafe situation and made safe. The customer now needs to take action to have it rectified. Notice of Hazards are free from RGI.

You must give the customer a copy, return a copy to RGI and keep a copy for your records

Joe: What section do I fill out and what action do I take when I issue a Notice of Hazard?

Willie: A, B or C depending on the unsafe situation. A: for a non conformance but safe enough to leave the appliance/gas on. B: for an unsafe situation where you turn off the gas to an appliance and C: for an unsafe situation where you turn off the gas at the gas meter to isolate the complete installation (for C: you must notify the network operator Bord Gáis)

Joe: Will my work be inspected?

Willie: Yes you must make yourself available for Inspection and Audit. It's a requirement of the Criteria Document and the Rules of Registration.

Joe: Who will inspect my work and when?

Willie: The RGI inspector will contact you to agree a time and location for inspection.

Joe: Can I use the RGI logo on my van?

Willie: Yes, but you can only use the RGI logo as a sub logo of your name or your own company's name/logo. The RGI logo cannot be used on it's own on your van.

Joe: How do I report an illegal gas worker?

Willie: By filling out a form at www.rgii.ie or phoning RGI

Joe: When do I cease to be a Registered Gas Installer?

Willie: When your insurance is out of date, or you don't pay your yearly subscription, or for disciplinary reasons.

If you have a question for Willie email willie@rgii.ie

