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# Technical Bulletin

Terminating pipe for connection to a meter cabinet  
or multiple meter manifold

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April 2006

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## INTRODUCTION:

The aim of this bulletin is to avoid mix-up of gas meters which can lead to incorrect bills being sent to customers. It is targeted at installers who are routing gas pipework from a premises to a multi-meter bank. The gas manifold or prefabricated meter cabinet will be installed by Bord Gáis Networks.

For guidelines on other technical aspects of Natural gas Installation refer to Technical manual booklet 2A Natural Gas Pipework Installation to Multi-Occupancy Dwellings and I.S. 813.

Before meters can be installed, for an apartment block or premises, the pipework must be brought to the point of connection of each meter.

The route between the meter connection point and the point of use must be proven.

Each pipe and isolation valve must be labelled by the installer with the apartment or premise number and floor.

This Technical Bulletin is effective from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006. After this date, Bord Gáis Networks will refuse to fit a meter (or meters) to any premise where the installer has failed to follow this procedure.

## 1.0 INSTALLATION PROCEDURE – GENERAL CONDITIONS

- The meter bank installation may be installed in any of the three layouts described below:
  - Type A . Connection to a prefabricated meter cabinet
  - Type B . Connection to an on-site fabricated manifold where meter brackets are not provided.
  - Type C . Connection to an on-site fabricated manifold where meter brackets are provided.
- The pipework between the meter point and the point of use within the premise must be soundness tested before checking which pipe goes to which premise as described in Section 5 below.
- Pipework must be run in a neat and logical sequence to the meter point / cabinet.
- If the gas pipework for the supply of gas to a premise from a meter bank is not installed as described below the meter fitter will not fit the meters.
- The position of meters, once fitted by Bord Gáis Networks, must not be altered.

## 2.0 TYPE A INSTALLATION – PREFABRICATED METER CABINET

Pre fabricated meter cabinets (Example Fig 1) have the supply pipework extended outside of the cabinet. The standard cabinet contains six meters.

### Procedure:

- Run gas pipe from the premise / apartment to one of the connections provided on the cabinet meter point.
- Pressure test the pipe between the meter box and the premise / apartment as per I.S.813.
- Check which pipe is routed to which premise / apartment as described in Section 5.0 below.
- Label each pipe (just outside the cabinet ) with the following details ( See Fig 3 below):
  - House/apartment number.
  - Floor Number.
 Use the tie-wrap labels provided.
- Complete the information sheet attached to the cabinet front (Fig. 2) with the following information for each apartment / premise connected to the cabinet:
  - House/apartment number.
  - Floor Number.

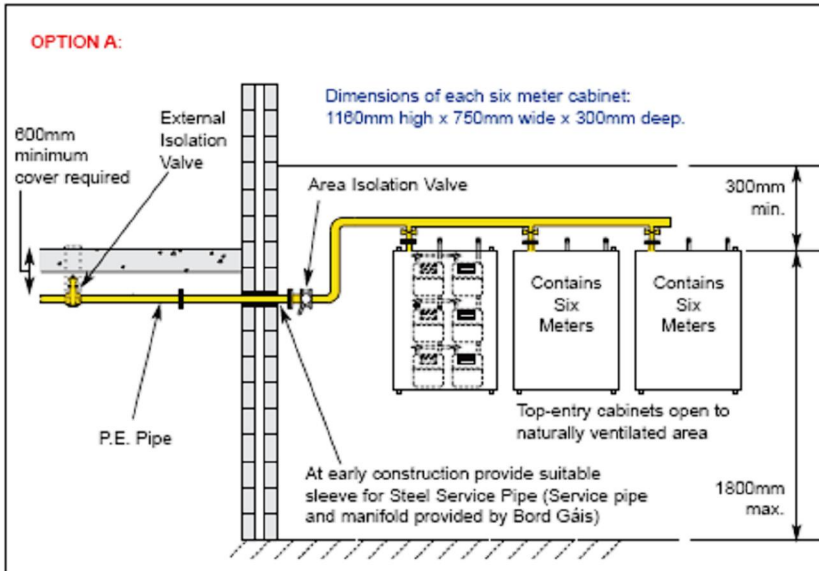


Fig 1 - Prefabricated Meter Cabinet



<h2 style="color: green;">LOW PRESSURE METER CABINET</h2> <p style="color: green;">(Maximum Inlet Pressure: 75mBar)</p>	
<p><b>MESSAGE TO HEATING INSTALLER:</b> METER POSITIONS WITHIN THIS CABINET</p>	
<p>For Customer Billing purposes, it is important that each meter is registered against the correct address. For this reason, the Heating Installer must connect to the fixed supply pipework exiting this cabinet and mark the house or apartment to which it supplies.</p> <p>THE POSITION OF METERS MUST NOT BE ALTERED ONCE FITTED BY BORD GÁIS ÉIREANN.</p>	
<p> Hse/Apt No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Floor No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Meter No.: _____</p>	<p> Hse/Apt No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Floor No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Meter No.: _____</p>
<p> Hse/Apt No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Floor No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Meter No.: _____</p>	<p> Hse/Apt No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Floor No.:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Meter No.: _____</p>
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ONLY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY - CALL . . . 1850 20 50 50

Fig. 2 Example of label attached to outside of cabinet . details (except meter number) to be completed by installer.

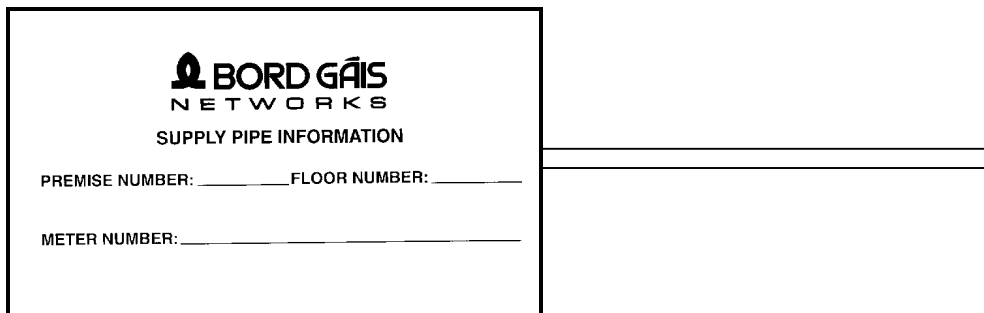


Fig 3 Tie-Wrap label details. Attach one to each supply pipe just outside the cabinet.

**3.0 TYPE B INSTALLATION – CONNECTION TO ON-SITE FABRICATED MANIFOLD. (NO METER BRACKETS)**

**Procedure:**

- The gas manifold (Example Fig 4 ) will be installed with an isolation valve provided for connection to each gas meter.
  - Install gas pipe between the point of use in the premise / apartment and meter position. Each gas pipe must be run to a position, 150 mm offset to the right of the supply isolation valve of the meter to which it is to be attached , 175 mm above the centre line of the manifold and 160 mm offset forward of the manifold. (see Fig 5, 6 & 7).
  - Pressure test the pipe between the meter box and the premise / apartment as per I.S.813.
  - Check which premise / apartment the pipe has been run to from the meter point as described in Section 5.0 below.
  - Label each pipe and meter isolation valve with the following details ( Fig 8 below):
    - House/apartment number.
    - Floor Number.
- Use the tie-wrap label, where provided.

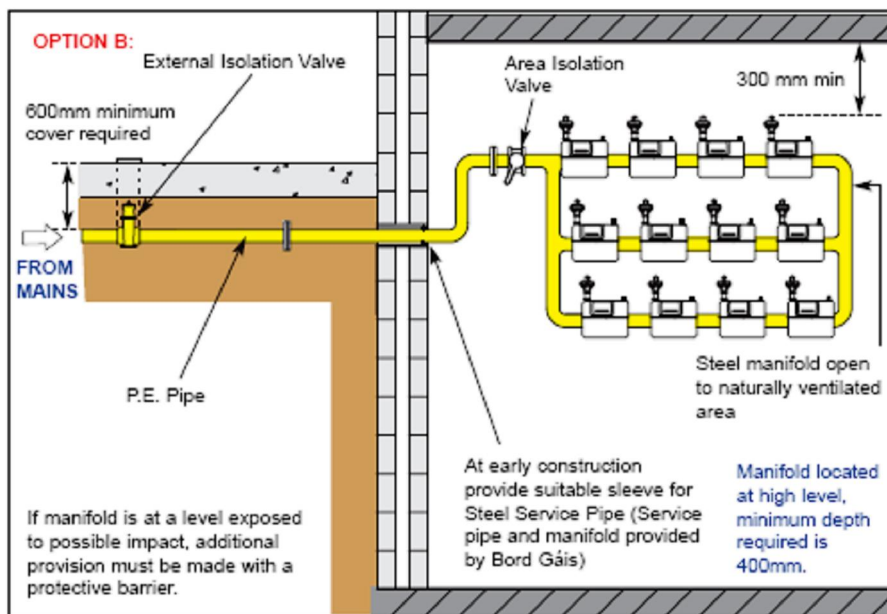


Fig 4 On-site fabricated gas manifold.

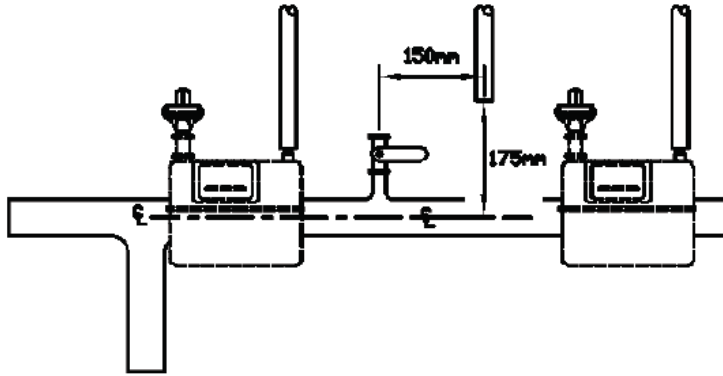


Fig.5 Installer to route pipe from premise / apartment to this point,

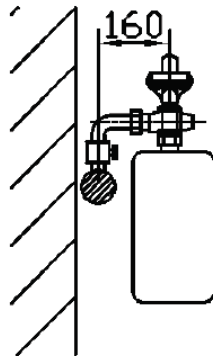


Fig. 6 Position of meter outlet pipe in relation to manifold (End view).

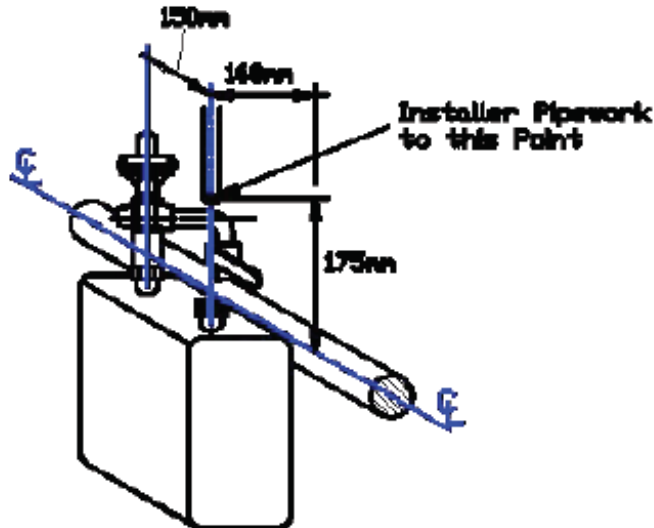


Fig. 7 Dimensions show the position where the installer should terminate his pipe in relation to the isolation valve and manifold.


 <b>BORD GÁIS</b> NETWORKS SUPPLY PIPE INFORMATION	
PREMISE NUMBER: _____	FLOOR NUMBER: _____
METER NUMBER: _____	

Fig 8 Pipe / valve Tie . wrap label to be attached to each supply pipe and isolation valve.

#### 4.0 TYPE C INSTALLATION – CONNECTION TO ON-SITE FABRICATED MANIFOLD. WITH METER BRACKETS PROVIDED.

##### Procedure:

- Where a meter mounting bracket has been provided the gas pipe must be run from the premise / apartment to the bracket slot with a coupling nut fitted-ready for connection to the meter. (See Fig 9, 10 & 11 below)
- Pressure test the pipe between the meter bracket and the premise / apartment point of use as per I.S.813.
- Check which premise / apartment the pipe has been run to from the meter point as described in Section 5.0 below
- Label each pipe and meter isolation valve with the following details (See Fig 12 below):
  - House/apartment number.
  - Floor Number.
 Use the tie-wrap label, provided.



Fig 9 Typical gas manifold and bracket arrangement for the installer who runs pipe to bracket slot.

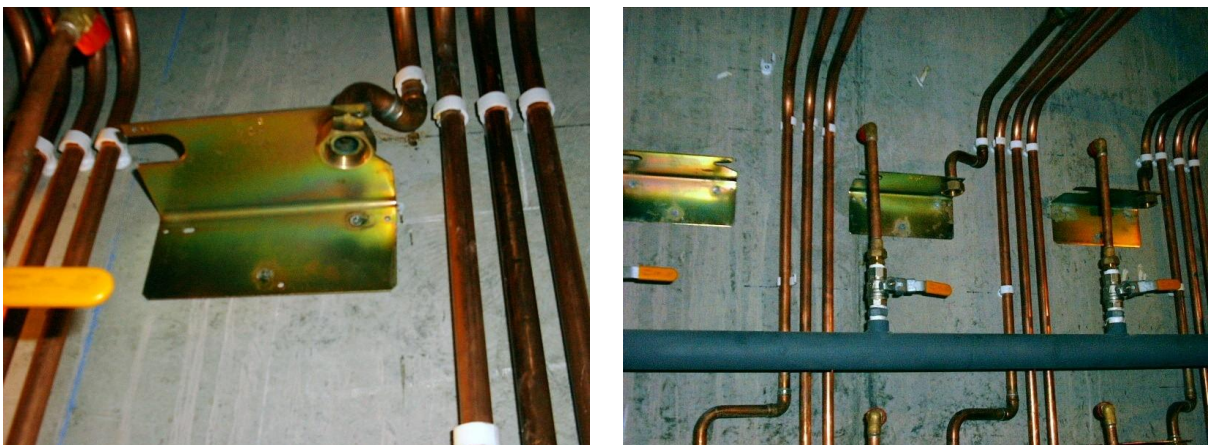


Fig 10 /11 Pictures shows pipe run (from apartment) to right hand slot of meter bracket.

**BORD GÁIS**  
NETWORKS

SUPPLY PIPE INFORMATION

PREMISE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ FLOOR NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

METER NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Fig 12 Pipe / valve Tie . wrap label to be attached to each supply pipe and isolation valve.

## 5.0 Checking pipe route from meter to point of use in premise / apartment :

### Procedure:

- Check the route of each gas pipe run from the point of use in the premise / apartment to the meter point as follows:
  - Fit a pressure gauge (or u-gauge manometer) at the meter end.
  - Pressurize to 100 mbar the pipe run from the meter position to the point of use in the premise / apartment.
  - Confirm that the pressure remains steady on the gauge.
  - Release the pressure at the point of use in the premise / apartment.
  - Re-check the gauge at the meter point. The pressure gauge reading should have dropped to zero.
  - If the pressure has dropped to zero then it can be assumed that the two points, the meter and point of use in the premise / apartment are connected.

## 6.0 Gas isolation valves:

Irish standard I.S.813 requires that where the gas isolation valve is not immediately assessable, as in this case where the meter bank is remote from the apartment or duplex, then a second isolation valve shall be fitted as close as practical to the gas pipe entry to the apartment or duplex dwelling.

The requirements for this valve are as follows:

- The isolation valve must conform to I.S. EN 331.
- Have a yellow handle.
- Be easily assessable to the occupant.
- Permanently marked to show its purpose and the off position.
- Its location and use must be explained to the occupant in person if they are available and in writing (a space for this is provided on the Declaration of Conformance form).