

Circular No: RD/G01/2019
Date of Issue: 1 March 2019

To: All Licensed Gas Service Workers and Professional Engineers

Dear Sirs

Gas Pipes in Enclosed or Unventilated Areas and False Ceilings

Through our survey and inspection, we observed that certain renovation works, particularly the installation of false ceilings, and/or boxed-ups enclosing gas pipes may compromise gas safety.

2. The Singapore Standards SS608: 2015 – Code of Practice for Gas Installation requires gas pipes in the false ceilings or unventilated areas, amongst other requirements, to be sleeved or ducted with both ends of the sleeves or ducts protruding beyond the external faces of the compartment walls. This is to allow any gas escaping from the gas pipes to be vented and to minimise accumulation of gas which may result in gas fires/accident.

3. It is probable that renovation works may be carried out enclosing the existing gas pipes on any premises being supplied or to be supplied with gas. False ceilings may also be installed as part of the renovation works, enveloping the existing gas pipes. Gas pipes may also be boxed up during the renovation works. In the absence of the pipe sleeve/ducts, any escaped gas may accumulate within the false ceiling/boxed-up areas posing a safety risk.

4. Even though town gas is odorised with a pungent odorant as a means of detecting gas leak, escaped gas in false ceilings/boxed-ups may remain undetected for a prolonged period leading to accumulation of gas.

Compliance with the requirements of Code of Practice SS608: 2015 – clause 5.5.2

5. All licensed gas service workers and professional engineers are therefore advised to take note and ensure that the gas installation is in compliance with the requirements as set out in the Singapore Standards SS608 above.

6. Should you need any clarification, please contact Mr Chow Chin Choeng (at telephone number 63767582 or email chow_chin_choeng@ema.gov.sg) or Mr Lim Dao Xian (at telephone number 63767780 or email lim_dao_xian@ema.gov.sg).

Yours faithfully

KNG MENG HWEE
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
INDUSTRY REGULATION DIVISION