

Gas Appliances Directive (90/396/EEC)	
GUIDANCE A 3	Approved by WG -GA
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Guideline related to:

CHAPTER	I	Scope, placing on the market and free movement
Article	1	
Paragraph	1	
Subject	Connecting hoses and regulators used to connect appliances to the fuel source; Other components affecting gas safety	

Article 1
<p>1. This Directive shall apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — appliances burning gaseous fuels used for cooking, heating, hot water production, refrigeration, lighting or washing and having, where applicable, a normal water temperature not exceeding 105 °C, hereinafter referred to as 'appliances'. Forced draught burners and heating bodies to be equipped with such burners will also be considered as appliances, — safety devices, controlling devices or regulating devices and subassemblies, other than forced draught burners and heating bodies to be equipped with such burners separately marketed for trade use and designed to be incorporated into an appliance burning gaseous fuel or assembled to constitute such an appliance, hereinafter referred to as 'fittings'.

Question

- Are connecting hoses and regulators used for connecting an appliance to the fuel source covered by the Directive?
- Are other components affecting gas safety covered by the Directive?

Discussion

1. Where the connecting hose and a regulator used to connect appliances to the fuel source, are placed on the market together as a complete appliance, they are considered as being part of the appliance which is within the scope of the Directive.
2. Where a connecting hose is supplied separately, it is not considered to be a fitting and therefore it is not within the scope of the Directive.
3. When a regulator is supplied separately, it would not normally be considered as a fitting in its own right, unless it is specifically intended for an appliance as described in point 1.

This guidance is for information only; it has no formal status

Reference: 90/396/EEC "Gas appliances directive" O.J. L 196, 26.07.90, p. 15

Source of guidance document: GADAC

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4. Where the appliance is placed on the market without a connecting hose or a regulator, the instructions for use accompanying the appliance must cover the safe connection to the fuel source.
5. A similar argument applies for other components affecting gas safety such as flue dampers, fanned flue systems and flue systems.

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Conclusion

Connecting hoses and regulators are covered by the Directive, in as far as they are placed on the market as (part of) a complete appliance and the complete appliance is identified with a unique appliance identifier.

Other components affecting gas safety such as, amongst others, flue dampers, flue systems and fanned flue systems, are covered by the Directive, in as far as they are placed on the market as (part of) a complete appliance and the complete appliance is identified with a unique appliance identifier.

Note:

It has to be considered that the fuel supply network in each Member State is subject to national legislation. Therefore there are many different sizes and shaped connectors for connecting to the connector of the fuel supply outlet.

The use of the right connectors is very important for the safety of gas appliances, as inappropriate connectors may give rise to dangerous situations due to gas leaks. It results that the connectors have to be compatible with the characteristics of the gas supply network in each country.

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