



## DIRECTIVE

### COMMON VENTING SYSTEMS FOR CATEGORY III OR IV GAS APPLIANCES

*This Directive is being issued by a provincial safety manager pursuant to section 30 of the Safety Standards Act.*

**Date of Issue: October 16, 2012**

**Directive No: D-G5 091103 4**

**Revision: 01**

#### General Details

By definition, Category III and IV appliances operate with a positive vent static pressure. Clause 8.10.6 of the CAN/CSA B149.1-10 prohibits common venting of these types of appliances.

#### Specific Details

Category III or IV appliances approved for common venting by a recognized certification agency and installed as a sealed combustion system will only be considered. The method for common venting must be included in the installation instructions and those instructions must bear the same certification agency's mark. In addition, only appliances with matching model numbers and inputs shall be common vented.

In order to be considered, a completed Request for Variance Form FRM-1076-3 must be submitted to the authority having jurisdiction **prior to the installation of the common venting system**. Consideration for acceptance will be based on the verification of a safe venting system and compliance with the manufacturer's certified installation instructions. Specific requirements regarding acceptable fittings and vent configuration must be adhered to.

The installation permit attached to the variance shall not be considered for final inspection/acceptance until the applicant has provided start-up documentation and confirmation from a professional engineer registered in the Province of British Columbia that the system is installed as detailed in the application, and is safely operating as designed. This documentation shall include: combustion analysis, venting system pressure measurements, and any additional verification as required.

The variance shall include:

- Completed Request for Variance Form FRM-1076-3 signed by an appropriately qualified gasfitter, or a professional engineer registered in the Province of British Columbia.
- Certified common venting installation instructions.
- Vent and combustion air supply system details, including sizing, material type, and operating pressure calculations.
- System testing and validation procedures.

Eric Skehor  
Provincial Safety Manager – Gas

#### References:

SBC 2003 Chapter 39  
B.C. Reg. 134/2009, April 1, 2009  
B.C. Reg. 150/2011, August 12, 2011  
CAN/CSA – B149.1-10

Safety Standards Act  
Safety Standards General Regulation  
Gas Safety Regulation  
Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code.

For more information on the British Columbia Safety Authority, please visit our web site at: [www.safetyauthority.ca](http://www.safetyauthority.ca)

DIRECTIVE NO: D-G5 091103 4 REVISION: 01

Page 1 of 1