



Office of **Energy**

Office of **ENERGY WA**

Gas FOCUS

Auto LP Gas Safety Campaign

The Gas Inspection Branch of the Office of Energy's Technical & Safety Division will shortly commence a community safety campaign to encourage drivers whose motor vehicles run on auto LP Gas to "Turn on Common Sense, Turn on Safety".

The campaign is designed to educate owners of these vehicles about the importance of having their vehicles regularly checked for faults and defects. The campaign, which will be run in association with Transport WA, the Royal Automobile Club of WA and sections of the autogas industry, will be offering drivers of vehicles that run on LP Gas, a free safety inspection of their vehicle's autogas installation. The aims of these safety inspections are to:

- promote and improve public awareness of autogas installation requirements and gas safety;
- promote safety of autogas installations;
- encourage compliance with current autogas safety rules; and
- encourage autogas users to correctly maintain their vehicles which helps to reduce emissions and fuel consumption.

The campaign will commence on Sunday 24 October 1999 with the first free inspection day for autogas owners. This event will be held at Transport WA's Licensing Centre, corner of Stock and Stockdale Roads,

O'Connor, between 8.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. Other free safety inspection days are planned for Welshpool, Warwick, Mandurah, Bunbury, Albany, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie.

The safety inspection will only take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete and will include a check of the autogas system, the LP Gas fuel container/equipment and vehicle exhaust emissions. Vehicle owners will be provided with an inspection report detailing any work needing attention.

Transport WA, the RAC and the Office of Energy will be providing display material adjacent to the inspection areas. This will give autogas owners the opportunity to quiz the experts on any matters to do with their auto LP Gas installation.

The auto LP Gas safety campaign will be supported by advertising in community newspapers, an editorial in the RAC's Road Patrol magazine and bumper stickers for all inspected autogas vehicles.

For further information about details of the campaign and the inspection days, please contact Ian Foster (telephone 08 9422 5236) or Graeme Hodge (telephone 08 9422 5297) of the Office of Energy's Gas Inspection Branch.

Kinco Compression Fittings

A recent fire investigation involving the use of a Kinco compression fitting to connect a storage water heater has prompted this reminder to gas fitters in respect of the use of these fittings.

Clause 3.2.3(c) of the Gas Installation Code AG 601 prohibits the use of an “olive-type fitting”. Kinco compression fittings are considered such a fitting and cannot be used on Natural Gas or LP Gas installations.

Gas fitters should only use approved fittings for the connection of gas appliances and equipment. Flared connections are the preferred and accepted method of connection recognised by the Office of Energy and the gas industry at large.

Under Regulation 32 of the *Gas Standards (Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations) Regulations 1999*, the Director of Energy Safety may vary or specify additional requirements in relation to a consumer’s gas installation. If a gas fitter or section of the industry consider that Kinco (or similar) compression fittings should be permitted in certain instances, an application should be made to the Director.

Such applications must be made in writing, detailing all aspects of the proposal including supporting information. The application should be forwarded for the initial attention of the Chief Gas Inspector, Office of Energy, 20 Southport Street, West Leederville WA 6007.



Kinco compression fitting

Compliance Badges and Labels — Approved Types

Regulation 28(2) requires that a gas fitter, on completion of his/her work (ie. work that the gas fitter has been contracted to carry out or to check), must fix an approved badge or label in an approved place relevant to the installation.

Only badges and labels identified as approved may be used.

The labels supplied in the Notices of Completion books and metal badges available at extra cost from the Office of Energy may be used and should be fixed in places indicated in a guide available from the Licensing Office.

Only metal badges and labels specifically approved for mobile engines may be used for such installations.

- available as metal badge, for mobile

- available as adhesive label (ex Notice books) or metal badge, for fixed installations, caravans and marine craft