

Revisions to the operational rules under the “Gas Business Act” and the “Act on the Securing of Safety and the Optimization of Transaction of Liquefied Petroleum Gas”.

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Product Safety Division,
Industrial and Product Safety Policy Group
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

1. Purpose

Under the “Gas Business Act” and “Act on the Securing of Safety and the Optimization of Transaction of Liquefied Petroleum Gas”, manufacturers and importers of gas/liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) equipment and appliances are required to ensure that these products conform to the technical requirements stipulated in and regulated by the “Ministerial Order on Technical Requirements for Gas Equipment” or the “Ministerial Order on Technical Requirements for Liquefied Petroleum Gas Appliances, etc.” (hereinafter referred to as “Ministerial Orders on Technical Requirements”).

These Ministerial Orders on Technical Requirements stipulate safety performance requirements, and “Operational Rules and Interpretations of the Gas Business Act for Gas Equipment and Appliances” and “Operational Rules for the Ministerial Order on Technical Requirements for Liquefied Petroleum Gas Appliances, etc.” (hereinafter referred to as “Operational Rules”) provide interpretations of the Ministerial Orders on Technical Requirements and examples of product specifications which satisfy the safety performance requirements stipulated in these Ministerial Orders.

This revision will newly stipulate the interpretations and examples of product specifications for automatic functions of gas/LPG equipment and appliances in the Operational Rules. In addition, some JIS standards which are referenced in the Operational Rules will be revised in accordance with the latest JIS standards.

Note: "Automatic functions" mean the functions of gas/LPG equipment and appliances to operate following the instructions preset by manufacturers or users under normal circumstances.

2. Summary

(1) The necessary interpretations regarding safety performance for automatic functions of

gas/LPG equipment and appliances such as tankless water heaters, space heaters and cooking stoves will be added to the Operational Rules. The safety performances include: 1) the equipment and appliances of which the design is easily to touch glowing heating parts or flames are not allowed to have the automatic functions including ignition, 2) the equipment and appliances which can supply hot water and control their temperature should supply hot water of which temperature is not higher than the preset temperature by 5 degrees, and 3) cooking stoves should have pilot safety shut off devices and overheat protection devices for cooking oil.

- (2) Some JIS standards referenced in the Operational Rules will be revised in accordance with the latest JIS standards.

3. Expected Schedule

Date of adoption: December 2021

Date of enforcement: December 2021 (Transitional period: six months)