

RB14-007

GAS LOG LIGHTERS IN MASONRY FIREPLACES

Reference: Article 9.22.1.2., Subsection 9.22.8., CANIULC-S610-M and Memo from Chief Plumbing & Gas Inspector Darryl Reinhart Regarding Gas Log Lighter Systems

Article 9.22.1.2. "Masonry and Concrete"

Subsection 9.22.8. "Factory-Built Fireplaces"

CANIULC-S610-M "Factory-Built Fireplaces."

Question:

Should gas log lighters for masonry fireplaces' only enter from the side and never from the bottom?

Commentary | Relevant Facts:

Gas log lighters in factory built fireplaces are always designed to enter from the firebox through the side, usually about 40 - 50 mm from the firebox floor. The purpose of having the log lighters entering from the side of a fireplace in a factory built fireplace is to reduce the possibility of hot embers or ashes from leaking through the gap between the hole in the firebox and the outside of the log lighter.

The referenced memo shows factory built fireplace models that are currently allowed gas log lighter installations. (See page 2)

The same precautions would also apply to masonry fireplaces as a similar danger exists in them of the hot products of wood combustion coming into contact with combustible elements. It is important that the log lighters be as high above the floor of the firebox as possible for the same reason.

Note: All gas piping in masonry fireplaces must be protected or coated in such a manner that it will prevent the contacting of the gas piping from any of the masonry construction.

Regulation Bulletin General Policy Statement

Unless stated otherwise, the Code references in this Regulations Bulletin are to Division B of the Alberta Building Code 2014 (ABC 2014). Regulation Bulletins do not overrule the ABC 2014 nor constitute a relaxation of the Code. They serve to clarify the Code in areas where the latter is ambiguous or does not cover a specific topic. Regulation Bulletins are City of Calgary clarifications for staff use to enable consistency in the application of the Code. Regulation Bulletins should always be read in the context of the appropriate requirements of the Code

Conclusion:

All log lighters in masonry fireplaces shall be horizontal. The minimum distance between the bottom of the log lighter pipe and the firebox shall be 40 mm.

Memo from Chief P&G Inspector: “Please be informed that to date we have received verification from the testing Authority, namely Warnock Hersey, on the acceptability of a certified gas log lighting system with the following models of factory built fireplaces.”

FMI Fireplaces	3600	3601	36E	36EC11
	36ECM11	36EC	36ECD	36EM
	368S1	36L	36LS	36R
	36RS	42C	42GC	42GC11
	42E	42ECD	42MC	1100E
Superior Fireplaces	RD-A Series	RHD	CHD	RC-A Series
	HCE-A Series	KR/KC-38/43	KR/KC-38-2	TM/TMC-4500
	CST-38	CPF-38	PR-7800	CC-5700 R/L
	CR-3885 R/L	CST-48	BRF-3875/4375	BCF-3885/4385
	PF 9000	LBR/LBC-3824/432	FIREPLUS 38/43	ST-3840A
Majestic Fireplaces	MBU36 (BR36)	MBUC3 6 (BC36)	MBU42 (BR42)	MBUC42 (BC42)
	SH42	SH36	SH48	R36 (SR36)
	R36A	RC36 (SC36)	RC36A	MR42 (SR42)
	MR42A	MRC42 (SC42)	MRC42A	WM36SX
	CV36	BAY36	IS36	WM36A
	WM42SX	C36L/C36R		
Heat N Glo	RWS41	RSW47		
Heatilator	If in the Manual			
Security Chimney's International	SR-36	SB-36	SR-42	SB-42
	DHT36A	HE43		

At this time the City of Calgary will accept the installation of a gas log lighter system if it is certified and stated that the gas installation specifically includes the log lighter in the manufacturers' manual.”

Chief Building Inspector