

DAMAGE DUE TO STRAIN FROM BUILDING SETTLEMENT

This bulletin has been jointly developed by Safety Services and the Gas Sub-Council to inform the gas industry of the requirements in the **CSA-B149.1 Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code**, associated with the protection of gas piping and tubing systems.

Designers, Installers and Safety Codes Officers are reminded to establish a means of protection to reduce the probability of damage or breakage of the gas piping or tubing systems in wood framed multi-storey buildings. The settling or shrinkage of building framing that is **not** accounted for could lead to leakage and/or breakage of the gas piping or tubing systems. The escape of gas into the building could result in a potential hazard or may directly cause hazards, such as a fire or an explosion.

The design and installation of every gas system shall include a means to accommodate for building settlement so as to protect the piping or tubing from damage in accordance with **Clause 6.16.3** of the CSA-B149.1 Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code.

The designer and/or installer shall confirm the settlement rates for the construction materials in accordance with good engineering practice and establish a means by which the piping and tubing are to be protected against damage or breakage due to strain. In addition, experience has shown that shrinkage can be as much as $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch per floor depending on the moisture content and height of the wood framing.

Installers are reminded that **Clause 6.14.4** prohibits any combination of fittings designed and intended to act as a swing joint from being concealed. In addition, any piping or tubing that contains fittings or joints **shall not be concealed** prior to being inspected and tested in accordance with **Clause 6.22**.

The purpose of this notice is to clarify responsibilities under the **Safety Codes Act (SCA)**. The Designers and Installers shall ensure that the design and installation of gas piping or tubing systems in all buildings complies with the **(SCA)** and in accordance with the regulations.



Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by
the Chief Gas Administrator



[Original Signed]
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