

**BULLETIN 01-2005**

March, 2005

**TO: LICENSED GAS CONTRACTORS  
LICENSED GAS FITTERS  
GAS UTILITIES  
LICENSED SUPPLY HOUSES**

**SUBJECT: ADD-ON FURNACE CONTROL DEVICE/VENTING HEAT  
RECOVERY DEVICES**

Some add-on furnace control devices (advertised as energy-savers), which interrupt the normal operating cycle of the furnace, are available in the marketplace.

Several furnace manufacturers have expressed concern that such devices may reduce the life expectancy of heat exchangers, gas valves, and other operating components of the furnace, and may void the warranty or certification of the appliance.

As well, some heat recovery devices which are placed in the vent connector of the appliance are on the market. These heat recovery devices cool the products of combustion in order to recover heat. Cooler products of combustion will not vent properly, leading to condensation, spillage, corrosion and possibly the production of carbon monoxide.

Be aware of these concerns, contact the furnace manufacturer/distributor to ensure the devices will not void the warranty or certification of the appliance, or adversely affect the safe operation of the appliance.

You may also direct inquiries to the agency that certified the device. They should ask if the product has been evaluated and certified for the type of appliance for which they intend to use it.

Installers are also reminded that under the “**B149.1 Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code**”, it is the responsibility of the installer to ensure:

- a) any device installed is a type and rating approved for the specific purpose for which it is employed; and
- b) that the appliance is in safe working order before leaving the installation.

Thank you for your co-operation in the matters of public safety.



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March 1, 2005