

THE INSTITUTION OF GAS ENGINEERS AND MANAGERS

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

AMENDMENTS. MARCH 2006

These Amendments apply to the following publications:

- **IGE/SR/25. Communication 1665**
Hazardous area classification of Natural Gas installations
Amendments: March 2006 (2 sides).

If the user copies these amendments onto A4 labels, the Amendments can be cut out and applied to the appropriate places within the relevant technical publications i.e. the individual Amendments are tailored to fit over the existing text.

**IGE/SR/25
COMMUNICATION 1665
2000**

The following amendments (March 2006) apply to all copies of IGE/SR/25 published in 2000.

**Section 2 Delete page 4 entirely. Substitute the attached.
Scope**

END OF AMENDMENTS

SECTION 2 : SCOPE

- 2.1 These Recommendations complement BS EN 60079-10 by providing a detailed procedure for the hazardous area classification of permanent and temporary Natural Gas installations, thus providing a basis for the correct selection and location of fixed electrical equipment in those areas.

Note: Releases of heavier-than-air or neutrally buoyant gases and vapours are covered by the IP Area classification code for installations handling flammable fluids (IP 15).

- 2.2 These Recommendations may be applied to any Natural Gas (as defined in Sub-Section 2.3) installation. However, for any installation downstream of an emergency control valve (ECV), other Procedures and Guidance may be more appropriate.

- (a) For installations upstream of, and including, the ECV, IGE/SR/25 applies.
- (b) For primary and secondary meter installations in industrial and commercial premises, where the equipment has been installed in accordance with IGE/GM/5, IGE/GM/6, IGE/GM/8 or BS 6400 and has been tested to, and complies with, IGE/UP/1, IGE/UP/1A or IGE/UP/1B, as appropriate, IGE/GM/7 applies **but** IGE/SR/25 applies to installations where:
- ventilation is of the forced type
 - MOP exceeds 75 bar
 - creep relief vents terminate within the meter installation enclosure
 - a competent person considers there to be unusual site circumstances
 - the installation is at a remote, unmanned, site
 - it is considered that leaks may go undetected
 - unodourised gas is metered.
- (c) For industrial and commercial installations downstream of a primary or secondary meter installation, or downstream of the ECV if a meter installation is not installed, other standards may be applied. For example, it is anticipated that a new publication, IGE/G/3, will address generic assessments of downstream equipment. However, in many such cases, it will be necessary to apply IGE/SR/25. The decision regarding the choice of standard will be the responsible engineer's.

In general, IGE/SR/25 is the conservative standard and, therefore, it may be used for any Natural Gas installation, if desired.

Note 1: It is recognized that there are other techniques available to enable the management of risk.

Note 2: IGE/GM/7 contains specific procedures relating to electrical connections to gas meters.

Note 3: It would not be normal to apply IGE/SR/25 to domestic gas installations.

- 2.3 These Recommendations apply to liquid-free Natural Gas with a combined proportion of methane-plus-inerts of greater than 89% by volume and a gross calorific value of less than 43 MJ m^{-3} in the temperature range -20°C to 50°C and gauge pressure not exceeding 100 bar. Ambient temperatures are assumed to be in the range -20°C to 35°C .

Note: These Recommendations do not apply to either compressed or liquefied Natural Gas (CNG or LNG) installations, for example as supplied at CNG vehicle filling stations. Guidance on the latter is provided in IP Electrical Installation of facilities for the storage and dispensing of LPG and CNG automotive fuels at vehicle refuelling stations.

The Recommendations are based on calculations assuming a minimum wind speed for ventilation of 0.5 m s^{-1} as required by BS EN 60079-10.

- 2.4 These Recommendations apply to any potential release of Natural Gas except those that may be caused by catastrophic failure as defined in BS EN 60079-10.

- 2.5 Certain aspects of the design of new plant and equipment can affect significantly the nature and severity of the eventual hazardous area classification.

IGE/SR/25 is not a design document. However, compliance with the general principles of design set out in Appendix 3 will help minimize the severity of the hazardous area classification.

- 2.6 All pressures quoted are gauge pressures unless otherwise stated.