



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

## BOSTON CHAPTER

CHARTERED 1973

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## Designer's Input Requested for Elevated Gas Pressure

On July 22, 2008 I had the pleasure of meeting at the Mass Plumbing Board office on Causeway Street with Joe Peluso and Paul Kennedy. Our meeting was very productive and we look forward in the coming months to publish Board policy statements and interpretations and some guidance regarding control designs for commercial cooking hoods.

In last month's newsletter we neglected to include the Board's Checklist for elevated Gas Pressure Applications. That checklist is included this month. Please note that the Board requires that the design of such systems shall be based on a system pressure drop of 10% of the starting pressure.

Mr. Peluso indicated that they have received many applications where the pressure drop has exceeded 10%. The position of the Board is that a "variance" is required in order to install an elevated pressure system. The Board, in its discretion, has established the 10% pressure drop as a mandatory requirement for approval.

In my own professional practice we always used this 10% rule which was based on design guidance from an American Gas Association Publication entitled *Gas Engineers Handbook*. My copy is dated 1969, and I am not sure if this publication is still in print.

The Board has offered us the opportunity to assist them in possibly changing this requirement. They have asked us to solicit from our membership technical data that would support some other design standard. As there are applications to the Board by our members that used higher drops than 10% , we would ask those engineers to share with our subcommittee any documentation, research, etc. that would support a higher pressure drop. We will review this information and submit it to the Board.

We view this as an opportunity for our Chapter membership to be part of the Code Process. Please take advantage of this opportunity. Please e-mail me at [mgarcia43@comcast.net](mailto:mgarcia43@comcast.net) and exchange with me your thoughts, ideas, comments. Please include references to publications, research papers, etc. that adequately support your design.

Manuel B. Garcia, P. E., C.P.D. Aug. 10, 2008