NFPA® 54

ANSI Z223.1

National Fuel Gas Code

2012 Edition

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An International Codes and Standards Organization

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12/09

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12/09

NFPA® 54–2012

ANSI Z223.1–2012

National Fuel Gas Code

2012 Edition

This edition of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54, *National Fuel Gas Code*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on National Fuel Gas Code, and acted on by NFPA at its June Association Technical Meeting held June 12–15, 2011, in Boston, MA. It was issued by the Standards Council on August 11, 2011, with an effective date of August 31, 2011, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54 was approved as an American National Standard on August 31, 2011. The ANSI designation is Z223.1–2012. The NFPA designation is NFPA 54–2012.

Origin and Development of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54

This code offers criteria for the installation and operation of gas piping and gas equipment on consumers' premises. It is the cumulative result of years of experience of many individuals and many organizations acquainted with the installation of gas piping and equipment designed for utilization of gaseous fuels. It is intended to promote public safety by providing requirements for the safe and satisfactory utilization of gas.

Changes in this code can become necessary from time to time. When any revision is deemed advisable, recommendations should be forwarded to the Secretary, Accredited Standards Committee Z223, 400 N. Capitol St. NW, Washington, DC 20001, and the Secretary, Standards Council, National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

Prior to 1974, the following three codes covered the installation of gas piping and appliances:

(1) *American National Standard Installation of Gas Appliances and Gas Piping*, ANSI Z21.30 (NFPA 54)
(2) *Installation of Gas Piping and Gas Equipment on Industrial Premises and Certain Other Premises*, ANSI Z83.1 (NFPA 54A)
(3) *Fuel Gas Piping*, ASME B31.2

The first edition of the code was issued in 1974. It combined the requirements of the three predecessor documents. The American Gas Association and the National Fire Protection Association have continued co-sponsorship of the code following the first edition.

The second edition of the code, incorporating pertinent portions of B31.2, was issued in 1980, and reorganized the code to the current format. The third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh editions were issued in 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, and 1999, respectively. The scope of the code was expanded in 1988 to include piping systems up to and including 125 psi (862 kPa).

The 2002 edition revised the requirements for air for combustion and ventilation to recognize changes in building construction practices. Also, coverage of sizing of gas piping systems was updated.

The 2006 edition incorporated expanded steel, copper, and polyethylene pipe sizing tables. Requirements for appliance shutoff valves were revised to allow manifold systems with all shutoff valves in one location up to 50 ft (15 m) from the most remote appliance, and the chapters were reorganized by application.

Changes to the 2009 edition included allowing press-connect fittings for gas piping systems, new requirements for bonding of CSST piping systems, expanded CSST sizing tables to recognize additional available sizes, new coverage of outdoor decorative appliances, and a new requirement to seal the annular space around the side wall vent penetrations.

In the 2012 edition, Section 8.3 on purging of fuel gas piping was extensively revised to require outdoor purging of piping larger than 2 in. nominal pipe size or piping operating at pressures above 2 psig (14 kPa) and monitoring of the outdoor purging point. Pipe 2 in. (50 mm) or smaller or with an operating pressure of 2 psig (14 kPa) or less can be purged indoors through a burner, with a gas detector, or by using written procedures.

In addition, the requirements for bonding of CSST were revised to require the bonding connection to metallic pipe or fitting between the point of delivery and the first downstream CSST fitting, rather than at the building entrance. New requirements for overpressure protection for regulators exceeding 2 psi (14 kPa) were added, and the requirements for "Room large in comparison with size of appliance" were deleted because changes in boiler and furnace design make this no longer relevant.

Prior editions of this document have been translated into languages other than English, including Spanish.

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NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

The National Fuel Gas Code Committee is a committee functioning jointly under American National Standards Institute Accredited Standard Committee Z223 procedures and the National Fire Protection Association and, accordingly, the national Fuel Gas Code bears two designations, ANSI Z223.1 and NFPA 54. In the ANSI context, the code is prepared by the Accredited Standards Committee on National Fuel Gas Code, Z223, sponsored by the American Gas Association (Administrative Secretariat). In the NFPA context the committee is an NFPA Technical Committee submitted to ANSI under NFPA audited designation.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on safety code for gas piping systems on consumers' premises and the installation of gas utilization equipment and accessories for use with fuel gases such as natural gas, manufactured gas, liquefied petroleum gas in the vapor phase, liquefied petroleum gas-air mixtures, or mixtures of these gases, including: (a) The design, fabrication, installation, testing, operation, and maintenance of gas piping systems from the point of delivery to the connections with each gas utilization device. Piping systems covered by this Code are limited to a maximum operating pressure of 125 psig. For purposes of this Code, the point of delivery is defined as the outlet of the meter set assembly, or the outlet of the service regulator or service shutoff valve where no meter is provided. (b) The installation of gas utilization equipment, related accessories, and their ventilation and venting systems.

Contents

NFPA 54–2012

ANSI Z223.1–2012

National Fuel Gas Code

2012 Edition

NOTICE: An asterisk (*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates that explanatory material on the paragraph can be found in Annex A.

Changes other than editorial are indicated by a vertical rule beside the paragraph, table, or figure in which the change occurred. These rules are included as an aid to the user in identifying changes from the previous edition. Where one or more complete paragraphs have been deleted, the deletion is indicated by a bullet (•) between the paragraphs that remain.

A reference in brackets [ ] following a section or paragraph indicates material that has been extracted from another NFPA document. As an aid to the user, the complete title and edition of the source documents for extracts in mandatory sections of the document are given in Chapter 2 and those for extracts in informational sections are given in Annex L. Extracted text may be edited for consistency and style and may include the revision of internal paragraph references and other references as appropriate. Requests for interpretations or revisions of extracted text shall be sent to the technical committee responsible for the source document.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Chapter 2 and Annex L.

All pressures used in this code are gauge pressure unless otherwise indicated.

Chapter 1 Administration

1.1 Scope.

1.1.1 Applicability.

1.1.1.1 This code is a safety code that shall apply to the installation of fuel gas piping systems, appliances, equipment, and related accessories as shown in 1.1.1.1(A) through 1.1.1.1(D).

(A)* Coverage of piping systems shall extend from the point of delivery to the appliance connections. For other than undiluted liquefied petroleum gas (LP-Gas) systems, the point of delivery shall be the outlet of the service meter assembly or the outlet of the service regulator or service shutoff valve where no meter is provided. For undiluted LP-Gas systems, the point of delivery shall be considered to be the outlet of the final pressure regulator, exclusive of line gas regulators where no meter is installed. Where a meter is installed, the point of delivery shall be the outlet of the meter.

(B) The maximum operating pressure shall be 125 psi (862 kPa).

Exception No. 1: Piping systems for gas–air mixtures within the flammable range are limited to a maximum pressure of 10 psi (69 kPa).

Exception No. 2: LP-Gas piping systems are limited to 20 psi (140 kPa), except as provided in 5.5.1(6).

(C) Requirements for piping systems shall include design, materials, components, fabrication, assembly, installation, testing, inspection, operation, and maintenance.

(D) Requirements for appliances, equipment, and related accessories shall include installation, combustion, and ventilation air and venting.

1.1.1.2 This code shall not apply to the following items (reference standards for some of which appear in Annex L):

(1) Portable LP-Gas appliances and equipment of all types that are not connected to a fixed fuel piping system
(2) Installation of appliances such as brooders, dehydrators, dryers, and irrigation equipment used for agricultural purposes
(3) Raw material (feedstock) applications except for piping to special atmosphere generators
(4) Oxygen–fuel gas cutting and welding systems
(5) Industrial gas applications using such gases as acetylene and acetylenic compounds, hydrogen, ammonia, carbon monoxide, oxygen, and nitrogen
(6) Petroleum refineries, pipeline compressor or pumping stations, loading terminals, compounding plants, refinery tank farms, and natural gas processing plants
(7) Large integrated chemical plants or portions of such plants where flammable or combustible liquids or gases are produced by chemical reactions or used in chemical reactions
(8) LP-Gas installations at utility gas plants
(9) Liquefied natural gas (LNG) installations
(10) Fuel gas piping in electric utility power plants
(11) Proprietary items of equipment, apparatus, or instruments such as gas generating sets, compressors, and calorimeters
(12) LP-Gas equipment for vaporization, gas mixing, and gas manufacturing
(13) LP-Gas piping for buildings under construction or renovations that is not to become part of the permanent building piping system — that is, temporary fixed piping for building heat
(14) Installation of LP-Gas systems for railroad switch heating
(15) Installation of LP-Gas and compressed natural gas (CNG) systems on vehicles
(16) Gas piping, meters, gas pressure regulators, and other appurtenances used by the serving gas supplier in distribution of gas, other than undiluted LP-Gas
(17) Building design and construction, except as specified herein
(18) Fuel gas systems on recreational vehicles manufactured in accordance with NFPA 1192, *Standard on Recreational Vehicles*
(19) Fuel gas systems using hydrogen as a fuel
(20) Construction of appliances

1.1.2 Other Standards. In applying this code, reference shall also be made to the manufacturers' instructions and the serving gas supplier regulations.

1.2 Purpose. (Reserved)

1.3 Retroactivity. Unless otherwise stated, the provisions of this code shall not be applied retroactively to existing systems that were in compliance with the provisions of the code in effect at the time of installation.