Formal Interpretation
FI-16-1

ANSI Z223.1 - 2015
National Fuel Gas Code
Section 9.6.5.1 (A)

In accordance with Section 10 of the ANSI Accredited Standard Committee Z223 operating procedures, the Committee has issued the following Formal Interpretation on ANSI Z223.1 - 2015, Section 9.6.5.1 (A). The FI was approved by the National Fuel Gas Code Committee on August 4, 2016.

**Question:** The code states in Section 9.6.5.1 (A) “Where a connector is used, the valve shall be installed upstream of the connector. A union or flanged connection shall be provided downstream from the valve to permit removal of appliance controls.” Is a union or flanged connector required when an appliance is connected with an approved appliance connector?

**Committee Answer:** Section 9.6.5.1 (A) intends to require a union or flanged joint only where appliances are connected with rigid piping. Although not expressly stated, it is understood that a union would be redundant and unnecessary where appliances are connected with semi-rigid tubing and listed appliance connectors. Appliance connectors utilize a flare-type mechanical joint that allows the appliance controls to be serviced or replaced without disturbing the gas piping upstream of the shutoff valve outlet.