

**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.