

The Mechanical Pipeline



Education is the Key: System 1738® & Alabama's New Flue Gas Venting Code Requirements

System 1738® FLUE GAS VENTING

System 1738® Flue Gas Venting System Includes:

- UL 1738 certified vent system for Categories II and IV gas burning appliances
- Engineered PVC rated for flue gas temperatures up to 149°F (65°C)
- Sizes 2", 3", and 4"
- Pipe, fittings, cement, terminations and venting accessories
- Availability of cutting and bevelling tools to ensure proper joint installation
- Terminations and accessories that can be painted to match building exteriors
- Installation training and literature support
- National distribution



On January 1, 2020, a new fuel gas code became effective in the Birmingham Region of Alabama affecting venting for Category II, III, and IV gas-fired appliances. The new code now requires flue gas venting to meet the UL 1738 venting standard.

Compliance with this standard will greatly reduce the life-threatening risk of carbon monoxide emissions that can occur with installing non-certified venting products. Plumbing products such as Solid Wall Schedule 40 or Cell Core DWV pipe and fittings have been used in flue gas venting applications in the past due to cost and a lack of alternatives. Plumbing products were not designed to withstand the high temperatures and other stresses involved in flue gas venting, and their manufacturers have stated repeatedly that these products are not designed for venting applications.

In November 2019, IPEX offered training sessions to inspectors from the Birmingham regions of Homewood, Tuscaloosa and Mountain Brook. During training, the IPEX representatives took the time to clarify the code and provided an in-depth review of the update, including Section 503.4.2 of the code, which states: "Special gas vents shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 1738 and installed in accordance

with the special gas vent manufacturer's installation instructions."

During these training sessions, the inspectors were educated about the benefits of UL 1738 certified venting products as well as the risks associated with continuing to accept plumbing products in venting applications. This information was important as it would be passed on to the community and to those in the field installing the product.

These sessions also gave IPEX the opportunity to introduce the inspectors to System 1738® Flue Gas Venting, which is the only product in the marketplace constructed of PVC that meets the stringent requirements of the UL 1738 standard. System 1738 is an engineered and certified PVC option that also uses the same solvent weld installation process that people in the field are familiar with.

The fuel gas code change has improved safety in the community and reduced the risk and liability of those previously installing non-certified venting products. It has also brought awareness to other regions that have not yet updated their code and provided a framework to do so.

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System 1738® is a registered trademark.



It's the **right** thing to do.