

WATER HEATER
BULLETIN

Date: December 20, 1999

No. 137 Rev. 2

Subject: Gas Water Heater Conversion Policy

To: All Accounts

## **GAS WATER HEATER CONVERSION POLICY**

All A.O. Smith Water Products Company's residential and commercial gas water heaters are designed certified by CSA or UL, under ANSI Standards for operation on one type of gas only, as indicated on the water heater's model number and rating plate.

A.O. Smith realizes that there may be certain situations where a field conversion may be necessary and in order to facilitate such a conversion, A. O. Smith complies with CSA or UL regulations ensuring that a field conversion be appropriately and safely completed.

An improper field conversion from one type of gas to another could cause potentially dangerous conditions that may cause an explosion or fire resulting in property damage, bodily injury or both.

A.O. SMITH WILL ONLY ALLOW THE CONVERSION OF GAS WATER HEATERS FROM LP GAS (PROPANE) TO NATURAL GAS. THE CONVERSION OF A GAS WATER HEATER FROM NATURAL GAS TO LP GAS (PROPANE) IS NOT ALLOWED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

A.O. Smith will provide kits as demand warrants through our Parts Department, phone no. 1-800-433-2545. Prices, dimensions and specifications are subject to change without notice.

Each conversion kit is to be installed by an A.O. Smith service agent or a gas utility serviceman in accordance with A.O. Smith's written instructions and all codes and requirements of the authority having jurisdiction. Failure to follow instructions could result in serious injury or property damage. The utility performing this work assumes responsibility for this conversion.

## **Changing the Input on Gas Water Heaters**

The only changes to the input of a gas water heater allowed are:

- Adjustments to match that shown on the rating plate of the heater. The installation instructions supplied with the
  heater indicate if adjustments to input are a required procedure.
- Changes made as required to adjust the heater for proper operation at high altitude as determined by a qualified service technician. Service manuals include the proper procedure for adjusting heaters at high altitudes.

## **Conversion of Gas Water Heaters**

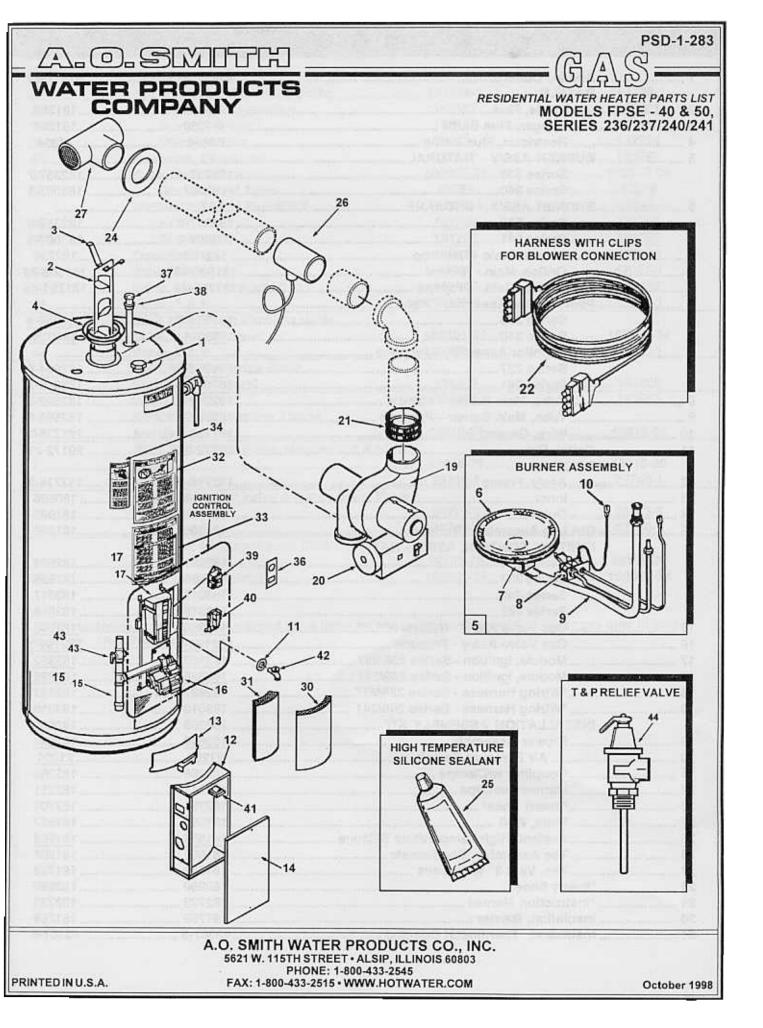
The conversion of LP gas (Propane) to Natural gas is ONLY allowed providing:

• The conversion is done as part of a gas utility's program where propane appliances were installed anticipating the completion of natural gas service to the area. The conversion must be done under the direct supervision of the utility and by their service representatives.

Claims of damage or injury arising from the unauthorized conversion of any A.O. Smith water heater not design certified for conversion will be the complete and total responsibility of the person or entity making the conversion.

If you have any questions regarding the above policy, please contact the A.O. Smith Parts Department at 1-800-433-2545 or our Technical Information Center at 1-800-527-1953.

<sup>\*</sup> This supersede all previous letters and field bulletins concerning residential and commercial water heater conversion.



Item	Description	FPSE-40 236/237/240/241	FPSE-50 236/237/240/241
1	Anode, Outlet	43817-29	43817-29
	BAFFLE		
2	Baffle, Flue	181382	181382
3	Hanger, Flue Baffle	181360	181360
4	Restrictor, Flue BaffleRestrictor, Flue Baffle	34894	34894
5	BURNER ASS'Y - NATURAL		
	Series 236		
	Series 240		
5	BURNER ASS'Y - PROPANE		
	Series 237	182357-8	182357-9
	Series 241		
6	Burner, Main - Nat/PropBurner, Main - Nat/Prop	182730	182730
7	Orifice, Main - Natural	181508-30	181508-30
7	Orifice, Main - PropaneOrifice,	181791-49	181791-49
8	Pilot / Ignitor Assembly - Natural		***************************************
	Series 236	<u>181954-4</u>	181954-4
	Series 240		
8	Pilot / Ignitor Assembly - Propane		
	Series 237	<u>181954-5</u>	181954-5
	Series 241	<u>183014-</u> 1	1 <u>83014-</u> 1
9	Tube, Main Burner - Natural	182592-9	182592-8
9	Tube, Main Burner - Propane	182593-9	182593-8
10		181736-2	181736-2
11	Collar, Pipe	20172-21	20172-21
	DOOR		
12	Ass'y, Frame	182716-2	182716-2
13	Inner	180596	180596
14	Outer	181943	181943
15	Dirt Leg Assembly, Propane	181206	181206
	IGNITION CONTROL ASS'Y - NAT		
	Series 236	182891	182891
	Series 237		
	Series 240	183017	183017
	Series 241	183018	183018
16	Gas Valve Ass'y - Natural	<u>181950</u>	<u>181950</u>
16	Gas Valve Ass'y - Propane	<u>182192-1</u>	182192-1
17	Module, Ignition - Series 236/237	<u>182352</u>	<u>182352</u>
17	Module, Ignition - Series 240/241	<u>193325</u>	<u>193325</u>
18	*Wiring Harness - Series 236/237	182887	182887
18	*Wiring Harness - Series 240/241	183010	183010
	INSTALLATION ASSEMBLY KIT	182650	182650
19	Blower Assembly	<u>182649</u>	<u>182649</u>
20	Air Pressure Switch	<u>21204</u>	<u>21204</u>
21		182269	182269
22	Harness w/Clips	182211	182211
23	*Insert Sheet	182701	182701
24	Plate, Wall	181557	181557
25	Sealant, High Temperature Silicone	<u>181564</u>	181564
26	Tee Assembly, Condensate	181861	181861
27	Tee, Vent 3" w/Screens	181762	181762
28	*Insert Sheet	182890	182890
29	*Instruction Manual	182733	182733
30	Insulation, Barrier	181759	181759
31	Insulation, Thermostat Opening	43307-5	43307-5

Item	Description	FPSE-40 236/237/240/241	FPSE-50 236/237/240/241
	Labels		
32	Flammable Vapor Warning	181139-1	181139-1
	Lighting & Operating		
	Scald Warning		
	*Temperature		
	Protector, Personnel		
37	Tube, Inlet w/Spacer	160907-34	160907-34
38	Spacer, Inlet Tube	42589	42589
	THERMOSTAT ASSEMBLY		
39	ECO		
	Thermostat		
	Transformer		
	Valve, Drain		
	Valve, Main Gas Shutoff		
	Valve, T & P		
	SMR H43; North Carolina Code		
37	Tube, Inlet w/Spacer	160501-34	160501-34
	Valve, T & P		
	SMR S06; California Code		
	Earthquake Manual	181809	181809
28	Insert Sheet	182552	182552
	SMR S19; Magnesium Anode		
. 1	Anode	43816-29	43816-29
	SMR S34; Relief Valve, Magnesium A	node	
1	Anode		43816-29
	Valve, T & P		
1	SMR S35; Relief Valve & Brass Drain		
42	Valve, Drain		26273-5
	Valve, T & P		
	SMR S44; Massachusetts Code		
1	Anode	29109-29	29109-29
	Tube, Inlet w/Spacer		

NOTE: Underlined parts are recommended stock items for emergency replacement. Consider gas used in your area only. \*Not illustrated.