Safety Alert 026

Developed with Vokèra

Title: Vokera internal condensate pipe product modification

Date issued: 9 May 2018

This Safety Alert provides guidance to Gas Safe Registered businesses/engineers about a product modification to the internal condensate pipe on certain obsolete Vokèra boilers.

Introduction

Following sporadic instances where the condense pipe has corroded on what are now obsolete appliances Vokèra Ltd. have decided to implement a modification to this component.

Affected Component

Instances of these failures are considered low, relative to the quantity of appliances produced.

The component is in a critical position within the appliance, and so for this reason, Riello (Vokèra), having undertaken extensive testing, and following this have decided to make a material change to the component.

The original condense pipe, was manufactured from aluminium whereas the new, modified pipe is manufactured from polypropylene (PP). As a result of this modification, the existing part codes have become obsolete and replaced by the following new codes:

OBSOLETE CODE	NEW CODE	PRODUCTS AFFECTED
10027543	20066456	Compact 25HE, Mynute 25EHE, Sabre 25HE
10027568	20066460	Compact 29HE, Mynute 29EHE, Sabre 29HE (+sys)
10028015	20066463	Compact 35HE, Mynute 35EHE, Sabre 35HE
10024132	20068881	Synergy 29 & 29e, Syntesi 29 & 29e
10024440	20068882	Synergy 25 & 25e, Syntesi 25 & 25e
10024521	20068884	Syntesi 35
10027977	20066464	Pro Combi 120

Working on the appliance

To ensure the safe continuous operation of the appliance, it is essential to carry out a visual examination of the 'condense' pipe, whenever you are required to service or repair any of the appliances identified in the above table.

The condense pipe should be examined for signs of corrosion such as leakage, weeping, or pitting.

Where the integrity of the condensate pipe has been affected the current Gas Industry Unsafe Situations Procedure (GIUSP)[1] should be implemented and the appropriate actions and warning notices/labels completed and issued.

If there is noticeable degradation on the component, it should be replaced as soon as possible. Where the pipe is badly corroded and is leaking; it will be necessary to replace it immediately to ensure the safe operation of the appliance and the safety of the end-user.

Although this is a relatively low-cost item; it is entirely discretionary as to whether or not a pipe which is free from damage or defect, should be replaced routinely as a preventative measure.

Bibliography

(1) *IGEM/G/11 - Gas Industry Unsafe Situation Procedure*

Note: *Gas Safe Register Technical Bulletins and the Legislative, Normative & Informative Document List can be viewed at: https://www.gassaferegister.co.uk/sign-in - login and visit the Technical Information area*

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