



## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

Robert L. Quinn, Commissioner

### MECHANICAL SAFETY & LICENSING BOARD

William (Bill) Trombly Jr. Board Chairman

Office: Incident Planning and Operations Center, 110 Smokey Bear Blvd, Concord, NH

Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305

603-223-4289, FAX 603-223-4294

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Mech 21-01	Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST)			February 23, 2021
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	MAP	SPT	NFPA 54, 2015 edition	

### **INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing**

This informational document was developed to provide homeowners and other residents of New Hampshire with valuable information about propane and natural gas safety in your home. The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) was the prime sponsor of a Senate Resolution to raise awareness of the safety concerns of this product. The Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) industry has assisted NASFM with this awareness campaign.

Accidental fires from direct and/or near lightning strikes can cause severe injuries or death to citizens. In addition, fuel gas systems that contain corrugated stainless steel tubing systems may cause severe property damage if the gas system is not adequately protected or is not installed properly.

Homeowners and property owners who have corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) in their homes are encouraged to determine if the system is properly bonded. Licensed New Hampshire fuel gas fitters who are certified in this product area should be contacted to make the correct determination on proper bonding protection of the natural gas or propane system.

The corrugated stainless steel tubing, or CSST, is a flexible gas piping system used for natural gas or propane fuel delivery system to appliances located inside buildings and homes. The product was developed in the 1980s and since 1990 the product has been installed in over 6,000,000 homes and businesses in America. Independent studies have revealed the fact that this tubing can fail when subjected to a spike in electrical energy generated either through a direct or indirect lightning strike to the building. The risk of fire resulting from a failure of this system can be reduced by means of equipotential bonding.



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### How to Identify CSST in Your Home

CSST may be located throughout your home as it is run much like the water pipes in a building. The tubing can range from one half inch in diameter to two inches in diameter in larger buildings. The piping is noticeable because the ridges in the tubing itself look like rings located just below the yellow coating material. While some systems run from your gas meter or propane regulator throughout your home; there are many installations where the yellow coated CSST may not be visible to the homeowner.

As the product is very flexible and easy to install, it may be used in renovations, gas piping systems replacement or upgrade, and in new appliance installations. In these cases, the tubing may be located above a finished ceiling or behind a partition wall. Residents are encouraged to seek the advice of a New Hampshire licensed fuel gas fitter, who is certified in this product to identify and correct any deficiencies in your current fuel gas piping system.





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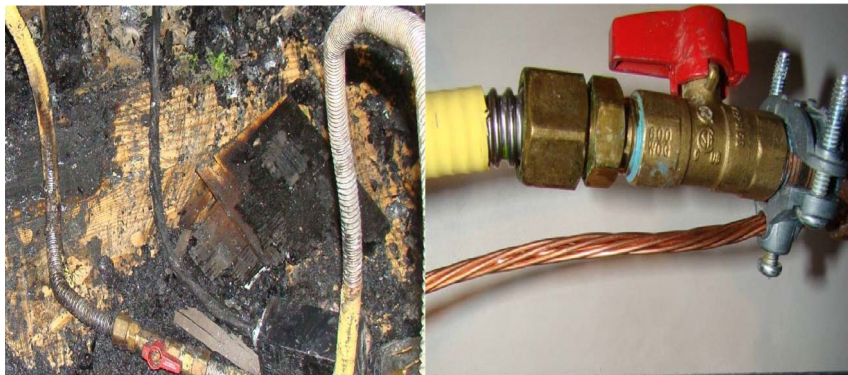
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### How to Protect Your Home

The National Fire Protection Association, National Fuel Gas Code 54, 2015 edition section 7.13.2 states, CSST gas piping systems, containing one or more segments of CSST, shall be bonded to the electrical service grounding electrode system or, where provided lightning protection grounding electrode system. NFPA 54, 2015 Sec. 7.13.2.2 states the bonding jumper shall not be smaller than 6 AWG copper wire or equivalent.

NFPA 54, Sec. 7.13.2.3 states the length of the jumper between the connection to the gas piping system and the grounding electrode system shall not exceed 75 feet. Any additional electrodes shall be bonded to the electrical service grounding electrode system or, where provided, lightning protection grounding electrode system.



### Helpful Hints for Homeowners

- Examine your homes fuel gas system to identify if this product is present.
- Consult with your fuel gas or propane supplier and have a licensed fuel gas fitter inspect your homes fuel gas system.
- Consult with your NH licensed electrician to have the bonding jumper installed and connected to your homes electrical grounding system.
- Never install an independent grounding rod for the CSST bonding jumper.
- Never make any connections or install clamps to the ribbed portions of the CSST piping.
- Never attempt to enter an energized electrical panel box without the proper training and protective equipment; even to connect the jumper wire.
- Call your local fire department or our office at 603-223-4289 for additional assistance or clarification.