

1966 No. 588

CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Oil Heaters Regulations 1966

<i>Made</i> - - -	15th May 1966
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	24th May 1966
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	1st June 1966

In pursuance of sections 1 and 2 of the Consumer Protection Act 1961(a), and after consulting with such persons and bodies of persons as appear to me to be requisite, I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. Regulation 3 of the principal Regulations shall be amended—

(a) by omitting in paragraph (3) thereof the words “or any uncontrolled flame”;

(b) by inserting after paragraph (3) thereof the following paragraph:—

“(3A) An oil heater designed to stand on a floor shall be such that it will satisfy the requirements of the test specified in Schedule 2 to these Regulations.”.

2. After Regulation 4 of the principal Regulations there shall be inserted the following Regulation:—

“Emission of carbon monoxide

4A. An oil heater shall be such that when it is burning at any rate at which it will burn normally, it does not emit more than one part by volume of carbon monoxide for every fifty parts by volume of carbon dioxide emitted.”.

3. For Regulation 6 of the principal Regulations there shall be substituted the following Regulation:—

“Spilling of fuel

6.—(1) An oil heater (other than a pressure heater) which is designed to stand on a floor shall be such that if the heater, when alight, is overturned so that it falls forwards, backwards or sideways so as to rest on the floor, any fuel escaping from the heater either will not be ignited, or, in the fifteen seconds after the heater is overturned, will not exceed the permitted quantity.

(2) In this Regulation the ‘permitted quantity’ means—

(a) in the case of a heater not having any burner which does not use an adjustable wick, a quantity in millilitres calculated in accordance with the formula set out in Schedule 3 to these Regulations; and

(b) in any other case, fifty-five millilitres.”.

4. Regulation 12 of the principal Regulations shall be amended by substituting, for paragraph (2) thereof, the following paragraphs:—

“(2) The inside of the fuel container of an oil heater (other than a pressure heater) shall be resistant to corrosion by the fuel and the vapour of the fuel.

(3) The inside of the fuel container of an oil heater which depends upon atmospheric pressure to retain the fuel in the fuel container shall be resistant to corrosion by water and water vapour.

(4) The following parts of the inside of the fuel container of an oil heater (other than a pressure heater and a heater to which paragraph (3) of this Regulation applies) shall be resistant to corrosion by water, that is to say, the bottom of the container and any join, or part of a join, in the materials of the container which is less than one inch above the inside of the container at its deepest point.”

5. After Regulation 13 of the principal Regulations there shall be inserted the following Regulation:—

“Goods already manufactured

13A As respects the requirements of these Regulations, subsections (1) and (2) of section 2 of the Act (which prohibits sales and possession for sale of goods and component parts not complying with regulations) shall apply in relation to goods and component parts manufactured before the coming into operation of these Regulations notwithstanding anything in subsection (4) of that section (which exempts such goods and parts unless regulations otherwise provide).”

6. There shall be inserted after the Schedule to the principal Regulations the Schedules set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

7. In these Regulations, “the principal Regulations” means the Oil Heaters Regulations 1962(a).

8. These Regulations may be cited as the Oil Heaters Regulations 1966 and shall come into operation on 1st June 1966.

Roy Jenkins,

One of Her Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State.

Home Office,
Whitehall.
15th May 1966.

SCHEDULE .

"SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 3(3A)

THE FLANNELETTE TEST

If—

- (a) the oil heater is set upon a level floor and allowed to burn under normal conditions, at the maximum rate for which the heater is designed, for a continuous period of not less than thirty nor more than sixty minutes; and
- (b) a leg or some part of the periphery of the heater normally in contact with the floor is then propped up a quarter of an inch above floor level, and the heater is allowed to continue to burn at the rate aforesaid; and
- (c) after a further period of not less than five nor more than thirty minutes, there is placed on the guard, approximately in the middle thereof and in such manner as to reach from the top to the bottom of the guard, a piece of dry flannelette of such a length as is necessary for that purpose, approximately four inches in width throughout the said length and of the description set out in paragraph 7(b) of the relevant Specification;

then the flannelette shall not smoulder or ignite within ten seconds after being so placed.

In this Schedule, "the relevant Specification" means the British Standard Specification "Fireguards for Heating Appliances B.S. 1945 : 1953" published on 13th February 1953.

The reference in this Schedule to a heater being allowed to burn under normal conditions shall be construed as including a reference to a requirement that where the flame of the heater is adjustable it shall be adjusted from time to time as may be necessary during the first thirty minutes of burning but not thereafter.

A reference in this Schedule to the guard of an oil heater shall be construed as a reference to the guard required to be fitted to that heater by the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations 1953(a) or the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) (Scotland) Regulations 1953(b), as the case may be.

Regulation 6(2)(a)

SCHEDULE 3

FORMULA

The formula referred to in Regulation 6(2)(a) of these Regulations is—

$$\frac{55 \times t \times d}{15}$$

millilitres, where—

t = the maximum tilt, in degrees, to which the heater can be subjected before overturning in the direction in which the heater is overturned;

d = the aggregate mean diameter in inches, of the wicks or, where the wicks are not cylindrical, the aggregate length of their burning edges divided by π .

The reference in this Schedule to the mean diameter of a wick is a reference to the mean diameter of the inner and outer wick tubes."

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Oil Heaters Regulations 1962.

Regulation 1 makes more detailed provision for testing the performance of an oil heater when tilted out of level, by requiring that the heater shall be capable of complying with the test described in the Schedule.

Regulation 2 imposes a limit on the proportion of carbon monoxide which may be emitted by an oil heater.

Regulations 3 and 4 relate respectively to the spilling of fuel when an oil heater is overturned, and to the corrosion-resistance of fuel containers. They impose appropriate requirements in this connection on certain oil heaters, in particular wick-fed heaters, to which such requirements did not previously apply.

Regulation 5 secures that the Regulations of 1962 as amended will, from 1st June 1966, apply to oil heaters irrespective of their date of manufacture. Previously, by reason of section 2(4) of the Consumer Protection Act 1961, the Regulations did not apply to heaters manufactured before 1st June 1962.