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**Interpretation of the INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE  
Requirement for Shutoff Valve for Laboratories.**

2009 INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE  
SECTION 409 (IFGC): SHUTOFF VALVES pg. 71-72

409.1 General. Piping systems shall be provided with a shutoff valve in accordance with this section.

409.1.1 Valve Approval. Shutoff valves shall be of an approved type; shall be constructed of materials compatible with the piping; and shall comply with the standard that is applicable for the pressure and application, in accordance with Table 409.1.1.

409.6 Shutoff valve for laboratories. Where provided with two or more fuel gas outlets, including table-, bench- and hood mounted outlets, each laboratory space in educational, research, commercial, and industrial occupancies shall be provided with a single dedicated shutoff valve through which all such gas outlets shall be supplied. The dedicated shutoff valve shall be readily accessible, located within the laboratory space served, located adjacent to the egress door from the space and shall be identified by approved signage stating "Gas Shutoff".

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS  
SECTION 202 (IFGC)  
GENERAL DEFINITIONS pg. 9,15

VALVE. A device used in piping to control the gas supply to any section of a system of piping or appliance.

Automatic. An automatic or semiautomatic device consisting essentially of a valve and operator that controls the gas supplied to burner(s) during operation of an appliance. The operator shall be actuated by application of gas pressure on a flexible diaphragm, by electrical means, by mechanical means, or by other approved means.

APPLIANCE Any apparatus or device that utilizes gas as a fuel or raw material to product light, heat, power, refrigeration or air conditioning.

Conclusion:

SECTION 409.6 Shutoff valve for laboratories. Indicates that a laboratory having more than one fuel gas outlet should be equipped with “a single shutoff valve ...” and that said valve should be “readily accessible, located within the laboratory space served, located adjacent to the egress door from the space and shall be identified by approved signage stating “Gas Shutoff”.

Additionally referencing CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 202 (IFGC), GENERAL DEFINITIONS. VALVE. Automatic valves or solenoid valves with electrical operators are referenced as an acceptable “operator that controls the gas supplied to burner(s) during operation of an appliance.” Further within this same SECTION “Any appliance or device that utilizes gas as a fuel or raw material to product light, heat, power, refrigeration or air conditioning.” Clearly a gas turret within a laboratory can be defined as an appliance, and since an automatic device or solenoid valve is listed as an acceptable means to control said appliance, then the operator of this solenoid should suffice as the means to operate this shutoff valve. Thus, a button located on a wall panel that electrically operates the solenoid could be interpreted as the “single dedicated shutoff valve” for the laboratory.

The Interpretations and Conclusions stated here in reflect the opinions of the Management of ISIMET, LLC and do not in any way imply that any action should be specifically taken as a result there of.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil A. Parker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Phil A. Parker

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