Gas-fired Water Heaters not requiring protection as per LSC 101:8.7.1.1 (2003 ed.)
(Updated 10.05.02)

LSC 101:8.7.1.1 Hazard Protection
Protection from any area having a degree of hazard greater than that normal to the general occupancy of the building or structure shall be provided by one of the following means:
1. Enclosing the area with a fire barrier without windows that has a 1-hour fire resistance rating.
2. Protecting the area with automatic extinguishing systems.
3. Applying both of the above where the hazard is severe or where otherwise specified within the occupancy chapter.

Office of State Fire Marshal Interpretive Memorandum 2000-13 exempts the following from LSC 101:8.7.1.1:
Interpretive Memorandum 2000-13 states that: Residential-type Gas-fired Appliances in Existing and New Occupancies whose size does not exceed 3125 sq. ft. based upon 8 foot ceiling (25,000 Cubic Feet in Volume) and which are served by a single residential-type/sized gas-fired HVAC unit, shall not be required to comply with LSC 101:8.7.1.1. Therefore, at a single residential-type gas-fired hot water heater, at a single residential type/sized gas-fired laundry dryer, and at a single gas-fired furnace, there shall be no requirement for protection, as it is the view of this office that they represent no more of a threat than one would expect in a one-or two-family dwelling, and represent a threat which is no greater than that normal to a(n)...occupancy. For purposes of this interpretation, residential gas-fired appliances shall be defined as follows:

- **Gas-fired hot water heater**: Under 50 gallons
- **Gas-fired furnace**: 5 Tons or less
- **Gas-fired laundry dryer**: Single unit

In facilities where there are multiples of gas-fired devices (example: 2 gas-fired hot water heaters, or a 2nd gas-fired furnace unit, or multiple gas-fired laundry dryers), the additional appliance(s) shall be required to be protected as per LSC 101:8.7.1.1, as the addition of these appliances would increase the hazard to a greater than typically residential level.

Office of State Fire Marshal interpretive memorandum exempting the following from LSC 101:8.7.1.1:
Gas-fired furnaces and water heaters in apartments serving a single living unit shall not be required to be separated as per LSC 101:8.7.1.1. (March 14, 1995)

Office of State Fire Marshal product evaluation exempting the following from LSC 101:8.7.1.1:
Gas-fired hot water heaters herein listed are exempt from the above code requirement, as they have been evaluated by this office and appear to satisfy the following:
1. Combustion chamber is completely sealed
2. Combustion air and exhaust pipe is plastic and not metal
### Listing of Water Heaters not requiring protection as per LSC:8.7.1.1
(Updated 10.05.02)

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<th>EVALUATION REF.</th>
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<td>A.O. Smith</td>
<td>BTH Series</td>
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