Technical Guidance

Installation of gas flue pipes in roof spaces

Question

Is a gas flue pipe installed in a roof space at an angle greater than 45° from the vertical acceptable if it passes a flue test?

Considerations

- NHBC Standards clause 6.8–D10 says that no gas flue pipe should exceed 45° from the vertical.
- BS 5440 ‘Specification for installation and maintenance of flues’ and building regulations say that no gas flue pipe shall be installed so as to form an angle greater than 45° from the vertical.
- The position of roof trusses/rafters etc. and low roof pitches may obstruct the straightforward installation of gas flue pipes.
- Gas pipes should be installed to avoid any spillage of the products of combustion into the dwelling that could endanger the occupants.

Answer

Gas flue pipes must be located in a position so they can be installed as near vertical as possible. In no circumstances should a gas flue pipe exceed 45° from the vertical.

The use of calculations to prove the acceptance of flue pipes installed at an angle exceeding 45° from the vertical is not acceptable.