TECHNICAL GUIDANCE 6.8/02

Installation of gas flue pipes in roof spaces

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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 Chapter 6.8.10 says that gas flue pipes should be vertical where possible (where this is not possible, pipes should not be more than 45° from 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.

