

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION TO  
PLUMBERS PERFORMING SERVICE LINE INSTALLATIONS  
ON THE LANCASTER MUNICIPAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

As you may be aware the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) recently completed an investigation concerning gas risers in Ohio. The results of the investigation recommends several actions on behalf of the gas distribution companies in Ohio, some of which will affect plumbers performing service line installations.

1. Proper installation of field-assembled risers (i.e. risers wherein the plastic pipe is inserted and joined to the riser by the installer) is critical to achieve a proper gas tight seal and adequate pipe pullout resistance. Effectively, this reiterates the requirement that risers be installed by DOT Operator Qualified (OQ) individuals precisely in accordance with the riser manufacture's instructions and the associated piping installed according to 49 CFR 192.361 as presented in the OQ Training module for service line installations.
2. Lancaster Municipal Gas will consider the **installation of new service lines a DOT OQ Task. Effective March 1, 2007** installers of new service lines will be required to maintain the same OQ status as installers currently performing service line replacements including:

- A. **DOT Operator Qualification – Plumber Program**
- B. **Annual Mechanical Joining of Plastic Pipe**

The following 3<sup>rd</sup> party qualifier can provide qualification evaluations for the above:

Utility Technologies International Corp. (UTI) – a Columbus area company  
Phone: 1-614-879-7316 [www.uti-corp.com](http://www.uti-corp.com)

- C. **Participate in a PHMSA Compliant Drug & Alcohol Program** that meets the requirements of 49 CFR 192 Part 40 and Part 199

There are many companies that can provide this service. A Lancaster area provider is:

Ameritest Consortium  
Phone: 1-740-653-2007 [www.ameritest.com](http://www.ameritest.com)

Lancaster will utilize UTI to track participation in an approved Drug & Alcohol Program. **All service line installers should contact UTI regarding recording the status of your program.**