



## Media Release

Unqualified Fuel Contractors  
Busted and Prosecuted in Huron  
and Bruce Counties

## Two Fuel Contractors Plead Guilty to Safety Violations

*TSSA Cracks Down on Unqualified Contractors Endangering Homeowners*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Toronto, ON, January 31, 2013)** – TSSA’s ongoing crackdown on unqualified fuel contractors has netted two contractors operating in Huron and Bruce counties in southwestern Ontario.

The Ontario Court of Justice in Goderich and Owen Sound levied fines totaling \$13,000 against two fuels contractors for violating safety regulations under the *Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000*.

Fuels contractor Rick Hughes of Huron County pled guilty to installing a natural gas furnace in the municipality of Huron East without holding the appropriate certification and operating as a fuels contractor without being registered. Hughes was fined \$6,000 plus the mandatory 25% victim surcharge for a total penalty of \$7,500.

Fuels contractor Ted Tenbergen, who operates Tenbergen Contracting based in Sauble Beach, pled guilty to installing a natural gas furnace in a Sauble Beach home without the appropriate certification. Tenbergen also pled guilty to providing false information by filling out a pressure tag test with another contractor’s name and certificate number. Tenbergen was fined \$7,000 plus the mandatory 25% victim surcharge for a total penalty of \$8,750.

Following investigations by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), Ontario’s public safety regulator responsible for fuels safety, both Hughes and Tenbergen pled guilty in court to contravening provincial safety regulations by performing work on gas appliances without holding appropriate certification.

“These are serious violations of Ontario’s public safety rules that put homeowners in real danger,” said John Marshall, Director of TSSA’s Fuels Safety Program. “An incorrectly installed gas furnace could easily lead to carbon monoxide poisoning that can kill or sicken unsuspecting residents,” added Marshall.

In Ontario, all technicians employed in the installation, repair or servicing of natural gas appliances must possess valid TSSA certification, which ensures fuels contractors are properly trained and familiar with Ontario’s safety rules. TSSA reminds the public that any fuel-fired appliance should be installed, serviced and/or inspected by a TSSA-certified technician. If in doubt of a technician’s certification, contact TSSA toll-free at 1-877-682-8772.

### *About TSSA*

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) is an innovative, not-for-profit, organization dedicated to enhancing public safety. Throughout Ontario, TSSA regulates the safety of amusement devices, boilers and pressure vessels, elevating devices, fuels, operating engineers, ski lifts, and upholstered and stuffed articles. Its range of safety services include public education and consumer information, certification, licensing and registration, engineering design review, inspections, investigations, safety management consultation, and enforcement and prosecution activities. The organization’s vision is to be a valued advocate and recognized authority in public safety.

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For more information on the Technical Standards and Safety Authority, please visit [www.tssa.org](http://www.tssa.org).

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