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Client:- Everhard Industries.
405 Newman Road Geebung.

Date :- 26/11/14

To Whom it may Concern

Dear Sir/Madam:

I have been asked if I would be able to provide some comment on behalf of Everhard Industries Pty Ltd with regards the differences in use and installation between free standing cabinet style (lipped) and Bench top / insert style laundry units that are offered by Everhard and other companies for installation into residential laundry rooms.

I am a plumber by trade and have been working in the industry for over twenty years and during this time installed numerous laundry units from many manufacturers although the type and style is generally selected by the builder or the home owner.

Bench top / Insert type laundry bowls are fitted where there is a bench or cabinet work built into the laundry room. These units can also be used as a sink for a wet bar or butlers kitchen but rely on a solid bench or cabinetry for support. The bowl is placed into a precut opening and is held in place by clips which attach to lugs welded at positions around the underside of the bowl edge. The bowl is normally sealed to the bench top by using a flexible foam strip that is trapped in a groove in the edge of the bowl between the bowl and the bench top surface.

The free standing cabinet style laundry unit is often used by builders of new homes as it gives the new home owner more freedom in the layout of the new laundry. The free standing cabinet is still fixed in position in the room however the washing machine could be put on either side of the cabinet if it is placed along a wall. The lipped bowl used in the free standing style cabinet is a major part of the structure of the cabinet itself. The lipped bowl fits over the top edges of three sides of the cabinet and gives the unit rigidity. It is also the rear upturned tiling strip that holds the unit against the wall although sometimes the rear braces are also screwed to the wall. The upturned lip that is tiled over is also what provides the seal against the laundry wall.

I have been also asked to comment as to how an insert bowl could be substituted in a cabinet and vice versa.

It may be possible to use a cabinet style (lipped) bowl in a bench but it would require extensive modification. It would be necessary to cut away all of the side lips both down turned and up turned to be able to try to seal the bowl to the bench top. It would not be possible to seal the bowl to the bench without removing the lips as the rear upturned lip would leave an opening for vermin to get in and under the bowl and create a health hazard. If all the lips were cut away it would also be necessary to grind smooth all of the edges or it would be a significant safety hazard on the raw edge of the stainless steel.

Also it would still be very difficult to seal the bowl to the bench as there would be no recess to trap the seal strip and hold in place while the bowl was fixed in place. Which is a further issue as there would be no way to attach the clips to the bowl without welding to the underside of the bowl surround which would cause marks and burns to the top surface of the bowl surround. In all my time as a plumber I have never been asked to perform this modification or try and fit a lipped laundry bowl into this configuration.

In the same way it would be extremely difficult to use a bench top / insert mount bowl in a freestanding style laundry cabinet. Without the downturned lip there is no way to position the bowl positively on the top of the cabinet. It may be possible to get some of the clips to align under the edges of the cabinet walls however it is going to leave a straight edge of thin stainless steel exposed all around which would be a sever safety hazard. Also without the upturned lip on the rear of the bowl there would be no reliable seal at the rear of the unit against the wall which in turn would allow water to enter the inside of the cabinet and become a health risk with the possible buildup of mould. Generally bench top /insert type bowls all come with rounded corners so there are no sharp points to catch on when wiping around the sink, so it would leave openings in the cabinet top unless it completely overhangs the cabinet which as pointed out previously would leave a straight edge of stainless steel that would be like a knife if someone rubbed against or past the bowl edge while doing laundry. Instead of fitting the bowl directly to the cabinet it could be possible to place a section of bench top on top of the standard cabinet and mount the bowl in the standard manner, however there are no provisions for fixing a bench top to a standard cabinet and fixing any brackets through the sides would be unsightly.

I hope this assists with clearing up the confusion that has been related to me by the Everhard staff member.

Sincerely,



JACK RITCHIE - DIRECTOR

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