



NSF International Questions and Answers about NSF-372

What is the proposed NSF-372 standard?

NSF 372 - Drinking Water System Components - Lead Content is a proposed NSF standard which will contain the lead content evaluation procedures currently housed in NSF/ANSI Standard 61, Annex G, less its requirement that products must first comply with the full requirements of NSF/ANSI 61.

The standard was proposed by the NSF Drinking Water Additives Joint Committee, which is an elected group of nearly 40 representatives from public health, industry and user categories. This group is responsible for oversight of NSF/ANSI Standard 61 to ensure it is current and reflective of public health issues.

Why is NSF-372 being proposed?

Annex G was added to NSF/ANSI 61 in late 2008 to provide a standardized procedure for determining the weighted average lead content of products when evaluating to a 0.25% lead content requirement such as those enacted in California and Vermont.

While placement of the procedure in NSF/ANSI 61 was convenient for many manufacturers already providing the information needed to perform the calculations as part of their NSF/ANSI 61 evaluations, maintaining the procedures in Annex G did not meet all needs of all concerned. Two of the reasons cited were as follows:

- The scope of products covered which may be covered by the law might not be in perfect alignment with the scope of products covered by NSF/ANSI 61 (e.g. Point-of use drinking water treatment units). Placement of the requirements in a separate standard allows use across all product types.
- All jurisdictions requiring compliance with the lead content requirement might not also mandate compliance with NSF/ANSI 61. Placement in a separate standard allows those jurisdictions to cite compliance with NSF 372 or NSF/ANSI 61 separately.

(continued)

Is Annex G going away?

No, the NSF Drinking Water Additives Joint Committee recommended that Annex G be retained for a period of three years at which time the Annex would be designated as retired. This would provide a necessary reference for products that are certified and/or marked to Annex G and the new standard. It would also provide a reference for those jurisdictions or bid specifications that currently require compliance to it.

At the same time that NSF 372 is being balloted, a corresponding revision to Annex G will be balloted. The ballot will remove Annex G's current lead content evaluation methodology and replace it with reference to NSF 372. Annex G will maintain its current requirement that products must first comply with the full requirements of NSF/ANSI 61.

Is the NSF-61G Marking going away?

No, NSF will continue to offer and support "NSF-61G" or "NSF pw-G" marking on products as long as it is of value in demonstrating product compliance with both chemical extraction and lead content requirements in the marketplace. It is anticipated that in California and Vermont virtually all drinking water products will continue to be required to meet both NSF-61 and low lead requirements, so this marking will continue to be predominant.

Will there be new marking for NSF-372?

For the handful of products that only seek evaluation to NSF-372, new marking will be required.

When will NSF-372 be complete?

While a specific time cannot be predicted due to the balloting process, it is expected that NSF Standard 372 will be published sometime in 2010.

For information regarding NSF/ANSI Standard 61, Annex G, visit the [NSF Low Lead Plumbing Products Guide](#), or email NSF at plumbing@nsf.org.