



Western Suppliers Association

3423 Investment Blvd. #204 • Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 670-0962 • (800) 752-8833 • FAX (510) 670-9081

NO-LEAD LEGISLATION UPDATE

Lead Reduction Requirement Effective January 1, 2010

As you are aware, the State of California has passed a new law that requires plumbing products to contain no more than a maximum weighted lead content ≤ 0.25 percent. As of this date, there has been no change in the effective date of January 1, 2010 and none is expected. All of the State departments that are responsible for monitoring this legislation, including the State Department of Public Health Services and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control have been very adamant about the effective date. This position is supported by the State Legislature.

The legislation indicates that the term "lead free" shall apply to those items "*conveying or dispensing water for human consumption*" (AB 1953, Chapter 853). Most of the faucet manufacturers believe this only refers to Lavatory and kitchen faucets. Shower valves are not effected because they are not intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption. This interpretation may apply to other devices that dispense water for other than human consumption.

As a result of this legislation, **NSF International** recently announced the development of a new compositional standard for products that come in contact with drinking water, including faucets. The new requirements are incorporated in to the NSF/ANSI American National Standard for Drinking Water Products to help protect the public from exposure to lead. The standard is contained in **Annex G**.

NSF/ANSI Standard 61, Annex G-*Weighted Average Lead Content Evaluation Procedure to a 0.25 Percent Lead Requirement* allows manufactures to demonstrate compliance to California legislation the limits the weighted average of lead content in plumbing products, which come in contact with drinking water, to 0.25 percent. While California lead content requirements are not scheduled to go into effect until 2010, NSF is currently providing evaluations against Annex G now, and will be updating NSF 61 listings to indicate compliance with the low lead product.

Please check with the manufacturers of material you purchase and stock for their listings of compliant products.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Robertson', is written over the typed name.

Don Robertson