NSF International Standard / American National Standard

NSF/ANSI 223 - 2013

Conformity Assessment Requirements for Certification Bodies that Certify Products Pursuant to NSF/ANSI 60: Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals - Health Effects



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NSF International Standard/
American National Standard
for Drinking Water Additives –

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Contents

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Foreword[2]

NSF/ANSI 223 establishes minimum requirements for certification organizations to be used when certifying products to NSF/ANSI 60.

Background

A change was made to the California Code of Regulations (CCR, adopted on March 9, 2008) that required annual recertification of drinking water treatment chemicals to NSF/ANSI 60: *Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals-Health Effects.* This was prompted by concerns that while some certification organizations provided annual retesting of treatment chemicals other organizations allowed for up to five years to pass in between retests.

In 2009 Section 3.8 Conformity Assessment, which contained product testing and facility inspection requirements, was incorporated into NSF/ANSI 60-2009a. However, there were concerns that requirements for the conformity assessment process (facility inspections and periodic retest requirements) in NSF/ANSI 60 would not receive sufficient attention from ANSI during the periodic reviews, as they constitute only a small portion of the issues governed by that standard. It was determined that there would be more focus on conformity assessment if the requirements were placed in a separate standard for conformity assessment. A task group was formed to develop the Standard, and included representatives from industry, certification organizations, water utilities, and public health agencies. In 2010, the task group was expanded further to include the input of many more manufacturers' representatives.

It was noted during the discussion that when NSF/ANSI 60 was originally devised, most production of direct additives occurred in or was overseen by owners from countries where corruption played an insignificant role in business. Today, a substantial portion of the production of direct additives to water has moved to countries where this is no longer the case. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) is perhaps the most famous of a number of such indexes constructed to aid international businesses in understanding the conditions they will face in the different countries in which they do business. Such conditions include labor rates, public holidays, endemic diseases, labor laws, business etiquette and corruption. The index has been constructed annually since 1995 for Transparency International by Prof. Johann Graf Lambsdorff of the University of Passau. The process sources 16 independent surveys of countries, and a country must appear in at least three of these sources in order for a score to be calculated. The CPI was revised in 2012 from a scale of 0-10 to 0-100, where the lowest possible level of perceived corruption would equal a score of 100 and the highest possible level of perceived corruption would equal a score of 0. As production moves to a wider variety of source countries and raw material sourcing is further diversified due to cost considerations, there must be a method to differentiate locations where oversight can be relaxed, and where it must be maintained. Therefore NSF/ANSI 223 establishes additional requirements for locations in countries with a CPI score of < 50. This external source of such judgments is the method most commonly used worldwide and is used in this Standard as one of the determinants as to where oversight shall be maintained.

This Standard is intended to provide structured requirements for certifications performed to NSF/ANSI 60. The requirements of NSF/ANSI 223 are supplemental to those contained in ISO Guide 65 or ISO Guide 17020 and do not replace the requirements in either ISO standard. The requirements include (but are not limited to) documentation reviews, product testing, and facility inspections conducted during surveillance. Minimum facility inspection requirements are defined (section 5.1), as are the conditions under which announced inspections are allowed in lieu of unannounced inspections. In addition, an informative annex has been included to provide examples of conformity assessment activities drawn from the experiences of multiple certification bodies.

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This version of NSF/ANSI 223 – 2013 includes the following revisions:

- Issues 2 and 4: These revisions specify measures that are to be taken to provide assurance that a product is compliant with the standard even when the annual on-site audit is not done due to unsafe conditions such as those determined by a U.S. State Department issued travel restriction.

- Issue 3: This issue adds a normative reference to the 2012 version of the Transparency International (TI) Corruption Perception Index (CPI) and adjusts the TI CPI under section 5 from <5.0 to <50 to coincide with the updated scale.

This Standard was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Drinking Water Additives – Treatment Chemicals using the consensus process described by the American National Standards Institute.

Suggestions for improvement of this Standard are welcome. This Standard is maintained on a Continuous Maintenance schedule and can be opened for comment at any time. Comments should be sent to Chair, Joint Committee on Drinking Water Additives – Treatment Chemicals at standards@nsf.org, or c/o NSF International, Standards Department, P.O. Box 130140, Ann Arbor, MI 48113-0140, USA.

NSF International Standard
for Drinking Water Additives –

Conformity Assessment Requirements for Certification Bodies that Certify Products Pursuant to NSF/ANSI 60: Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals – Health Effects

1 General

1.1 Purpose

This Standard establishes minimum requirements for certification bodies to be us ed when certifying products to NSF/ANSI 60 - Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals – Health Effects. These requirements are supplemental to those contained in ISO Guide 65 or ISO 17020 and do not replace the requirements of either ISO standard. By specifying this Standard, users of product certifications can communicate their expectation that certification activities addressed herein are performed in the particular manner described.

1.2 Scope

This Standard establishes requirements for activities to be per formed when certification bodies certify products to NSF/ANSI 60, including documentation reviews, product testing, and facility audits conducted during surveillance.

1.3 Normative references

The following documents contain provisions that, through reference, constitute provisions of this NSF Standard. At the time this Standard was balloted, the editions listed below were valid. All documents are subject to revision, and parties are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the recent editions of the documents indicated below. The most recent published edition of the document shall be used for undated references.

ISO/IEC Guide 65: 1996 *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*[3]

ISO/IEC Guide 17020: 1998 *General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection*[1]

NSF/ANSI 60 - *Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals – Health Effects*

Transparency International *Corruption Perception Index*, 2012[4]

[3] International Standardization Organization, 1 ch. De la Voie-Creuse, Case postale 56, CH 1211 Geneva, 20 Switzerland, <www.iso.org>.

[4] Transparency International, Alt-Moablt 961, 10559 Berlin, Germany, <www.transparency.org>.