

NSF/ANSI 53 – 2004

Drinking water treatment units — Health effects

**NSF International Standard/
American National Standard**

NSF/ANSI 53 – 2004



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for Drinking Water Treatment Units —

**Drinking water treatment units –
Health effects**

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Contents

Foreword	vii
1 General	1
1.1 Purpose	1
1.2 Scope	1
1.3 Minimum requirements	1
1.4 Chemical and mechanical reduction performance claims	1
1.5 Standard review	2
2 Normative references	3
3 Definitions	4
4 Materials	8
4.1 Materials in contact with drinking water	8
4.2 Materials evaluation	8
4.2.1 Analytical methods	8
4.2.2 Exposure water	8
4.2.3 Exposure	8
Table 1 – Extraction testing parameters	10
Table 2 – Formulation dependent extraction testing parameters	12
Table 3 – Materials listed in U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21,	14
not requiring formulation review	14
Table 4 – Non-specific extraction testing parameters	15
5 Structural performance	16
5.1 Structural integrity	16
5.1.1 Acceptance	16
Table 5 – Structural integrity testing requirements	17
5.1.2 Working pressure	18
5.1.3 Structural integrity test methods	18
5.1.3.1 Apparatus	18
5.1.3.2 Hydrostatic pressure test – complete systems	18
Figure 1 – Structural testing apparatus	19
5.1.3.3 Hydrostatic pressure test – metallic pressure vessels	20
5.1.3.4 Burst test – nonmetallic pressure vessels	20
5.1.3.5 Cycle test	21
6 Minimum performance requirements	22
6.1 Performance indication of chemical reduction capacity	22
6.1.4 Performance indication device verification test	22
6.1.4.1 Apparatus	22
6.1.4.2 General test water	22
6.1.4.3 Test methods	22
6.2 Elements	23
6.3 Flow control	23
6.4 Waste connections	23
6.5 Product water dispensing outlets	23
6.6 Hazards	23
6.7 Systems used in bottled water plants	24
6.8 Operation temperature	24
6.9 Rated pressure drop	24
6.10 Minimum service flow	24
Table 6 – Minimum service flow	24

6.11	Rated service flow	24
6.12	Active agents and additives	25
6.13	Filter media	25
7	Mandatory testing for elective claims	26
7.1	General requirements	26
7.1.1	Aesthetic effects claims	26
7.1.2	Apparatus.....	26
	Figure 2– Example test apparatus	27
7.2	Chemical reduction claims	28
7.2.1	Organic chemical reduction testing.....	28
7.2.1.1	Organic chemical reduction claims.....	28
	Table 7 – Chemical reduction requirements	28
7.2.1.2	Apparatus.....	29
7.2.1.3	Analytical methods.....	29
7.2.1.4	Servicing of components	29
7.2.1.5	General test water	29
7.2.1.6	Cycle time	30
7.2.1.7	Methods	30
7.2.1.8	Sampling.....	30
7.2.2	Inorganic reduction testing.....	32
7.2.2.1	Inorganic reduction claims.....	32
	Table 8 – Chemical reduction requirements	32
7.2.2.2	Apparatus.....	32
7.2.2.3	Analytical methods.....	32
7.2.2.4	Servicing of components	32
7.2.2.5	General test water	32
7.2.2.6	Cycle time	33
7.2.2.7	Methods	33
7.2.2.8	Sampling.....	33
7.2.3	Radon reduction testing	35
7.2.3.1	Radon reduction method	35
	Table 9 – Radon reduction requirements.....	36
7.2.3.2	Retention of radon decay products.....	36
7.2.3.3	Gamma radiation exposure	36
7.2.3.4	Progeny activity at end of life.....	36
7.2.3.5	Apparatus.....	36
7.2.3.6	Analytical methods.....	36
7.2.3.7	Servicing of components	37
7.2.3.8	Radon challenge water	37
7.2.3.9	Cycle time	37
7.2.3.10	Method	37
7.2.3.11	Samplings	38
7.2.4	VOC reduction – surrogate organic chemical testing	39
7.2.4.1	VOC reduction claims	39
	Table 10 – Organic chemicals included by surrogate testing	39
7.2.4.2	Apparatus.....	40
7.2.4.3	Analytical methods.....	40
7.2.4.4	Servicing of components	41
7.2.4.5	General test water	41
7.2.4.6	Cycle time	41
7.2.4.7	Methods	41
7.2.4.8	Sampling.....	42

7.3	Mechanical filtration reduction claims	43
7.3.1	Asbestos reduction testing.....	43
7.3.1.1	Asbestos reduction claims	43
7.3.1.2	Apparatus.....	43
7.3.1.3	Analytical methods.....	43
7.3.1.4	Test water	43
7.3.1.5	Cycle time	43
7.3.1.6	Methods	44
7.3.1.7	Sampling – Plumbed-in systems without reservoir and plumbed-in systems with reservoir	44
7.3.2	Cyst reduction	45
7.3.2.1	Live <i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i> oocyst reduction.....	45
7.3.2.2	Polystyrene microsphere reduction for systems other than those used in bottled water plants.....	48
7.3.2.3	Polystyrene microsphere reduction for systems used in bottled water plants.....	51
7.3.3	Turbidity reduction challenge	54
7.3.3.1	Turbidity reduction claims	54
7.3.3.2	Apparatus.....	54
7.3.3.3	Analytical methods.....	54
7.3.3.4	Test water	54
7.3.3.6	Methods	55
7.3.3.7	Sampling.....	56
7.4	Metals reduction testing	57
7.4.1	Pentavalent arsenic reduction testing.....	57
7.4.1.1	Pentavalent arsenic reduction claims	57
	Table 11 – Pentavalent arsenic requirements	57
7.4.1.2	Apparatus.....	57
7.4.1.3	Analytical methods.....	58
7.4.1.4	Pentavalent arsenic reduction test water.....	58
7.4.1.5	Cycle time	59
7.4.1.6	Methods	59
7.4.1.7	Sampling.....	60
7.4.2	General metals reduction	61
7.4.2.1	General metals reduction testing.....	61
	Table 12 – General metals reduction requirements.....	61
7.4.2.2	Apparatus.....	62
7.4.2.3	Analytical methods.....	62
7.4.2.4	Servicing of components	62
7.4.2.5	Metals reduction test waters	62
7.4.2.6	Cycle time	62
7.4.2.7	Methods	62
7.4.2.8	Sampling.....	63
7.4.3	Lead reduction testing.....	64
7.4.3.1	Lead reduction claims	64
	Table 13 – Lead reduction requirements	64
7.4.3.2	Apparatus.....	64
7.4.3.3	Analytical methods.....	64
7.4.3.4	Servicing of components	64
7.4.3.5	Metals reduction waters for lead.....	64
7.4.3.6	Cycle time	66
7.4.3.7	Methods	66
7.4.3.8	Sampling.....	66
7.4.4	Mercury reduction testing.....	67
7.4.4.1	Mercury reduction claim.....	67
	Table 14 – Mercury reduction requirements	67
7.4.4.2	Apparatus.....	67

7.4.4.3	Analytical methods	67
7.4.4.4	Servicing of components	67
7.4.4.5	Mercury reduction test waters.....	67
7.4.4.6	Cycle time	68
7.4.4.7	Methods	68
7.4.4.8	Sampling.....	68
8	Instruction and information.....	69
8.1	Installation, operation, and maintenance instructions.....	69
8.2	Data plate.....	70
8.3	Replacement components	71
8.4	Performance data sheet.....	72
	Table 14 – Performance data sheet reduction claims	73
	Table 15 – Performance data sheet reduction claims for organic chemicals	75
	Table 16 – Performance data sheet performance claims for percent reduction.....	76

Annexes

A	Test method for detecting and enumerating <i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i> oocysts	A1
A.1	Summary of method.....	A1
A.2	Equipment.....	A1
A.3	Reagents.....	A2
A.4	Safety	A2
A.5	Enumeration of stock oocyst suspension	A3
A.5.1	Procedure using well slides	A3
A.6	Procedure.....	A3
A.6.1	Collection of sample.....	A3
A.6.2	Preparing the filtration manifold	A4
A.6.3	Membrane filter preparation.....	A4
A.6.4	Sample size.....	A4
A.6.5	Sample application.....	A5
A.6.6	Direct fluorescent antibody staining	A5
A.6.7	Filter mounting	A5
A.6.8	Computing and reporting counts.....	A6
A.7	Quality control	A7
A.7.1	Minimum requirements	A7
A.7.2	Micropipette calibration	A7
A.7.3	Initial demonstration of laboratory capability.....	A8
A.7.3.1	Method detection limit (MDL).....	A8
A.7.3.2	Initial precision and recovery	A8
A.7.4	Matrix spike	A8
A.7.5	Blank (negative control sample).....	A9
A.7.6	Ongoing precision and recovery	A9
A.7.7	Positive antigen control.....	A9
A.8	Analyst verification	A9
	Table A.1 – Ethanol/glycerol series	A10
	Table A.2 – Suggested sample volumes for 25 mm membrane filters	A10
	Table A.3 – Quality control acceptance criteria for performance tests.....	A10
B	Test method for detecting and enumerating polystyrene microspheres.....	B1
B.1	Summary of method.....	B1
B.2	Equipment.....	B1
B.3	Reagents.....	B1
B.4	Enumeration of stock micro-spheres	B2
B.4.1	Procedure using well slides	B2
B.5	Procedure.....	B2

B.5.1	Collection of sample.....	B2
B.5.2	Preparing the filtration manifold	B2
B.5.3	Membrane filter preparation.....	B2
B.5.4	Sample size.....	B3
B.5.5	Sample application.....	B3
B.5.6	Filter mounting	B3
B.5.7	Computing and reporting counts.....	B3
B.6	Quality control	B4
B.6.1	Minimum requirements	B4
B.6.2	Micropipette calibration	B5
B.6.3.1	Method detection limit (MDL).....	B5
B.6.3.2	Initial precision and recovery	B5
B.6.4	Matrix spike	B5
B.6.5	Blank (negative control sample).....	B6
B.6.6	Ongoing precision and recovery	B6
B.7	Analyst verification	B7
	Table B.1 – Suggested sample volumes for 25 mm membrane filters	B8
	Table B.2 – Quality control acceptance criteria for performance tests for microspheres	B8
C	Examples: Arsenic fact sheets for Performance Data Sheets	C1
C.1	Example one	C1
C.2	Example two.....	C2
D	Key elements of a certification program for drinking water treatment systems and components ..	D1
D.1	Marking the product	D1
D.2	Listing certified companies.....	D1
D.3	Annual audits	D1
D.4	Testing	D2
D.5	Toxicological evaluation of materials formulations	D2
D.6	Corrective action	D2
D.7	Enforcement.....	D2
D.8	Administrative review	D2
D.9	Appeals	D2
D.10	Complaints	D3
D.11	Advertising	D3
D.12	Records.....	D3
D.13	Public notice.....	D3
D.14	Confidentiality.....	D3

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Foreword²

The purpose of this Standard is to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of drinking water treatment systems that are designed to reduce specific health-related contaminants in public or private water supplies. NSF/ANSI 53 specifies minimum product literature requirements that manufacturers must provide to authorized representatives and owners.

Water contact materials in Drinking Water Treatment Units listed under NSF/ANSI 42, 44, 53, 55, 58, and 62 are tested and evaluated under a separate protocol from NSF/ANSI 61 with criteria that were developed specifically for the intended end-use. NSF/ANSI 61 listing should not be additionally required for acceptance of these listed units for water contact application.

This edition of the Standard contains the following revisions:

- Section 4.2.3.5 has been revised to clarify how without media testing is to be conducted in complex scenarios involving media that is chemically bound to non-media materials.
- Sections 8.2.2 and 8.3.2 have been revised allowing manufacturers to reference individual chemicals when using the surrogate test for VOC on the packaging and literature review. Manufacturers are prohibited from implying that specific testing for the chemical was conducted if only a surrogate test was completed.
- The test dust method as a surrogate for cyst reduction in 7.3.2.4 has been removed following the five-year period from the adoption of testing using live *Cryptosporidium parvum* oocysts and polystyrene microspheres. This revision further clarifies polystyrene microsphere specifications in 7.3.2.2 & 7.3.2.3.
- Section 7.4.4 has been added to clarify the definition of the test water for the 8.5 pH mercury reduction testing.
- Language has been added in sections 3, 6.3, 7.2, 7.3 & 7.4 to address refrigerator filter systems. Contaminant reduction testing will be conducted at a flow rate that equals or exceeds the refrigerator filter system flow rate.

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

Suggestions for improvement of this Standard are welcome. Comments should be sent to Chair, Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units, c/o NSF International, Standards Department, PO Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, USA.

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NSF/ANSI Standard for Drinking Water Treatment Units —

Drinking water treatment units — Health effects

1 General

1.1 Purpose

It is the purpose of this Standard to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of point-of-use and point-of-entry drinking water treatment systems that are designed to reduce specific health-related contaminants in public or private water supplies. This includes point-of-entry drinking water treatment systems used to treat all or part of the water at the inlet to a residential facility or a bottled water production facility and the material and components used in these systems. This Standard also specifies the minimum product literature and labeling information that a manufacturer shall supply to authorized representatives and system owners as well as the minimum service-related obligations that the manufacturer shall extend to system owners.

1.2 Scope

The point-of-use and point-of-entry systems addressed by this Standard are designed to be used for the reduction of specific substances that may be present in drinking water (public or private). These substances are considered established or potential health hazards. They may be microbiological, chemical, or particulate (including filterable cysts) in nature. It is recognized that a system may be effective in controlling one or more of these contaminants, but it is not required to control all. Activated carbon filter systems covered by this Standard are not intended to be used with water that is microbiologically unsafe or of unknown quality without adequate disinfection before or after the system.

1.3 Minimum requirements

This Standard establishes minimum requirements. Variations may be permitted when it is verified that compared to the systems covered in this Standard the alternate systems are as resistant to wear and physical damage or provide equivalent operation or performance. Systems with components or functions covered under other NSF or NSF/ANSI Standards or Criteria shall comply with those applicable requirements.

1.4 Chemical and mechanical reduction performance claims

1.4.1 All NSF/ANSI 53 performance claims shall be verified and substantiated by test data generated under the requirements of NSF/ANSI 53.

1.4.2 When making performance claims for substances not specifically addressed in the scope of this Standard or for those substances not specifically addressed but falling under the scope of NSF/ANSI 53, those claims not specifically addressed in the Standard shall be so identified.