



*NSF International Standard /  
American Water Works Association/  
American National Standard*

# NSF/AWWA/ANSI 375 - 2020

## Sustainability Assessment for Water Contact Products



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**NSF/AWWA/ANSI 375 – 2020**

NSF International Standard /  
American Water Works Association /  
American National Standard  
for Sustainability –

## **Sustainability Assessment for Water Contact Products**

Standard Developer  
**NSF International**

Partnership collaboration with  
**American Water Works Association**

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Unless otherwise referenced, the annexes are not considered an integral part of NSF Standards. The annexes are provided as general guidelines to the manufacturer, regulatory agency, user, or certifying organization.

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## Contents

1	General .....	1
1.1	Purpose .....	1
1.2	Scope .....	1
1.3	Principles.....	2
2	Normative references .....	2
2.1	Corporate governance .....	2
2.2	Product design and manufacturing .....	3
3	Definitions.....	5
4	Conformance, evaluation and assessment criteria .....	7
4.1	Sustainability categories .....	7
4.2	Conformance.....	7
4.3	Procedures for labeling and reporting.....	8
4.4	Prerequisite – Boundary diagram.....	8
4.5	Additional prerequisites.....	8
4.6	Zero (from production) waste, water consumption, noise, odor, or particulates.....	9
5	Product design.....	9
5.1	Purpose.....	9
5.2	Requisite: Design policy – Environmental assessment .....	9
5.3	Requisite: Design program – Environmental assessment.....	9
5.4	Optional: Design program – Maintenance and repair .....	9
5.5	Life cycle .....	9
5.6	Environmentally sustainable material inputs.....	11
5.7	Informed selection of suppliers .....	13
5.8	Optional: Consumer education.....	14
6	Product manufacturing .....	14
6.1	Environmental policy and management.....	14
6.2	Conservation of energy resources .....	15
6.3	Management of water resources.....	15
6.4	Optimization of material resources .....	16
6.5	Optional: Packaging minimization policy.....	16
6.6	Protection of air resources .....	17
6.7	Optional: Major supplier transportation program.....	17
6.8	Optional: Odor, noise and particulates program .....	17
7	Durability.....	17
7.1	Requisite: Durability policy.....	17
7.2	Optional: Durability and longevity of product .....	18
7.3	Optional: Minimization of impacts during use .....	18
8	End-of-life management .....	18
8.1	Optional: Product(s) recyclability.....	18
8.2	Optional: Postconsumer collection operations.....	18
8.3	Requisite: Consumables policy .....	19
8.4	Optional: Consumables minimization program .....	19
8.5	Optional: Consumables take-back program.....	19
9.1	Public commitment to transparency and social accountability.....	19
9.2	Requisite: Health and safety program.....	20
9.3	Optional: Reduction of health and safety incidents.....	20
9.4	Requisite: Working hours .....	20

9.5	Optional: Work-life balance program .....	20
9.6	Requisite: Disciplinary practices .....	20
9.7	Requisite: Employee dispute resolution .....	20
9.8	Requisite: Prevention of discrimination .....	21
9.9	Optional: Global facilities human rights .....	21
9.10	Requisite: Ethics policy .....	21
9.11	Optional: Ethics and ethics training .....	21
9.12	Community engagement .....	21
10	Innovation and continual improvement .....	23
10.1	Purpose .....	23
10.2	Optional: innovative approaches .....	23
	Normative Annex 1 Chemicals of concern .....	25
	N-1.1 Primary chemicals of concern .....	26
	N-1.2 Secondary chemicals of concern .....	26
	Informative Annex 1 .....	27
	Informative Annex 2 Key elements of a certification program for Sustainability Assessment for Water Contact Products .....	33
	I-2.1 General .....	33
	I-2.2 Product(s) certification process .....	33
	I-2.3 Suggested requirements for certifying organizations .....	34
	Informative Annex 3 Water contact product standards .....	37
	Informative Annex 4 Material product standards .....	41



## Foreword<sup>2</sup>

This American National Standard, NSF/AWWA/ANSI 375: *Sustainability Assessment for Water Contact Products* has been created to address the sustainability of the design, manufacturing, durability, and end of life management of water contact products. The Standard provides sustainability criteria that address environmental, human health and social responsibility. This Standard was developed as a collaborative partnership with the American Water Works Association and NSF International.

NSF Sustainability draws upon this expertise in standards development, product assurance and certification, advisory services and management systems to help companies green their products, systems and supply chains. NSF, through the National Center for Sustainability Standards, has developed sustainability standards for green chemicals, building products and materials and drinking water quality. NSF works with leading regulators, scientists, engineers, public health and environmental health professionals and industry representatives to develop these transparent, consensus-based standards.

### **About AWWA**

Established in 1881, the American Water Works Association is the largest nonprofit, scientific, and educational association dedicated to managing and treating water, the world's most important resource. With approximately 50,000 members, AWWA provides solutions to improve public health, protect the environment, strengthen the economy and enhance our quality of life.

### **About NSF International**

NSF International has been testing and certifying products for safety, health and the environment for more than 75 years <[www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org)>. As an independent organization, NSF's mission is to protect public health and the environment through standards development, inspection, management systems auditing, testing and certification for industries including food, water, building materials, retail, chemicals, automotive, aerospace, consumer products and health sciences. Operating in more than 120 countries, NSF is committed to protecting public health worldwide.

This edition of the Standard contains the following revision:

### **Issue 2**

This revision removed "and/or" statements in Sections 3.14, Section 5, and Section 8 in accordance with the ANSI Essential Requirements. In addition, an informative NOTE was revised to remove the word "shall," as NOTES cannot contain requirements.

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<sup>2</sup> The information contained in this Foreword is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Foreword may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the Standard.

This revision also includes an editorial update to the names of the Annexes within. The Annexes are being changed from alpha characters to numeric, preceded by a 'Normative' or 'Informative'. The Annexes have also been reordered so the Normative Annexes appear first, followed by the Informative Annexes. The table below shows the previous name of the Annex with the corresponding new name of the Annex:

<b>Annexes</b>	
<b>Previously known as:</b>	<b>Now known as:</b>
Annex A	Informative Annex 1 (I-1)
Annex B	Informative Annex 2 (I-2)
Annex C	Normative Annex 1 (N-1)
Annex D	Informative Annex 3 (I-3)
Annex E	Informative Annex 4 (I-4)

This Standard was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Water Sustainability – Products 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 Water Sustainability – Products at standards@nsf.org, or NSF International, National Center for Sustainability Standards at ncss@nsf.org, or PO Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48133-0140, USA.

# NSF/AWWA/ANSI Standard for Sustainability – Sustainability Assessment for Water Contact Products

## 1 General

In order to achieve a sustainable product rating, a product shall provide environmental, economic, and social benefits while protecting public health and welfare, and the environment over its full commercial cycle, from raw materials extraction to final disposition. A sustainable product provides performance and quality equivalent to those of similar products to be considered sustainable. A certified and noncertified product shall not have the same trade name or trademarked designation.

A sustainable product shall demonstrate multiple attributes that protect public health and the environment and foster healthy and prosperous conditions for human and ecological systems throughout its supply chain.

A purchaser of a water contact product chooses a product type based on the intended application; the product brand within that product type may be chosen based on its sustainability profile.

### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a consistent framework for collecting data and communicating information on the sustainable attributes of water contact products. Such information is expected to encourage the demand for, and supply of, water contact products that have a reduced impact on the environment and society, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous improvement.

This Standard is intended to be science-based, provide transparency, and offer credibility for manufacturers in making claims of environmental preferability and sustainability, and to harmonize the principles and procedures used to support such claims.

These criteria promote a practice for assessing the sustainability of water contact products. Sustainability-related information can impact a manufacturer's decisions about supply chain modifications, product(s) content changes, manufacturing adjustments, performance improvements, end-of-life options, and corporate governance, with the goal of producing more sustainable products.

This Standard provides a means to track incremental changes in the products' sustainability profile.

### 1.2 Scope

This Standard covers products that contact drinking water, wastewater, and recreational water and their packaging. The document includes relevant criteria across the product(s) life cycle from raw material extraction through manufacturing, use, and end-of-life management.

The Standard's primary users are intended to be water contact product(s) manufacturers interested in understanding the sustainability performance of their product(s). Independent auditors, certification bodies and environmental labeling organizations are also potential users in support of market-based environmental and sustainability claims. The output from the standard may be referenced by purchasers and consumers