NSF Protocol P156
Commercial Coffee Equipment Cleaners – Health and Performance

September 18, 2002

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NSF International
789 N. Dixboro Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Phone: (734)769-8010 Telex: 753215 NSF INTL
FAX: (734)769-0109 E-mail: info@nsf.org
Web: http://www.nsf.org

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Protocol Developer
NSF International
Engineering & Research Services

Prepared by NSF Engineering & Research Services staff with assistance from NSF Protocol Development Panel members shown below:

Ms. Cindy Ayers, Food Safety Solutions

Mr. Guy Burks, Bunn-O-Matic Corp.

Mr. Chris Michalek, FETCO

Mr. Mark James, Beans & Machines

Mr. Mike Johnson, Boyd Coffee Company

Ms. Patricia Klocker, Consumer Protection Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Mr. Bruce Milletto, Bellissimo Coffee InfoGroup

Dr. Dhirendra Shah, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Mr. James Witkowski, Minnesota Department of Health

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1 Introduction

This protocol establishes minimum requirements for the performance characteristics of chemical compounds used in cleaning commercial coffee dispensing equipment, including urns, brewers, glass pots and airpots. This type of cleaner may also be used for accessible parts of the machine in front of the boiler, heating and temperature regulation parts of the machine including brew baskets, funnels and other coffee contact areas. This type of cleaner is not intended for use in cleaning internal brewing equipment for lime or scale removal. The most common materials used in this type of equipment are stainless steel, glass and polycarbonate. This protocol contains minimum requirements for corrosiveness, cleaning performance and compliance with toxicological standards. Specific certification policies are shown in Annex A.

2 Definitions

Terms used in this Protocol that have a specific technical meaning are defined here.

2.1 **Air Pot:** A thermally-sealed vessel used for dispensing hot liquids by forcing liquid from container via air pressure.

2.2 **Corrosiveness:** An indication of the ability of a solution to corrode typical coffee equipment materials.

2.3 **Protocol:** A document that specifies test methods and acceptance criteria for product performance.

2.4 **Urn:** A closed vessel usually with a spigot for serving a hot beverage.

3 Requirements

3.1 Toxicology

Products shall not contain the following intentionally added heavy metals: antimony, arsenic, beryllium, barium, cadmium, lead, mercury, and selenium. Other ingredients that are classified by NSF as carcinogens, teratogens, mutagens or mineral acids are subject to exclusion at the discretion of NSF. Factors taken into consideration will be the percent by weight of the ingredient of concern and potential risks associated with exposure.

