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Wilkins Becomes First Backflow Preventer Manufacturer Certified by NSF to NSF Annex G



Wilkins, a Zurn Company, is the first backflow preventer manufacturer certified by NSF to NSF/ANSI Standard 61: *Drinking Water System Components -- Health Effects* and Annex G low-lead requirements, developed to help protect the public from exposure to lead.



Backflow preventers are mechanical plumbing devices that protect against pollution and contamination by preventing unsafe water from flowing back into the public water supply.

Manufacturers of backflow preventers for potable water service, faucets, valves, water fittings, and other products that come in contact with drinking water must meet the new lead requirements, as set forth in the California Health and Safety Code, by January 1, 2010. After this date, any pipe, fitting, or fixture intended to convey or dispense water for drinking or cooking must meet a weighted average lead content of ≤ 0.25 percent.

The lead content requirements of Section 116875 of the California Health and Safety Code (also known as AB1953) were incorporated as an annex into the American National Standard for health effects of drinking water system components NSF/ANSI Standard 61: Annex G – Weighted Average Lead Content Evaluation Procedure to a 0.25 Percent Lead Requirement.

To obtain certification, Wilkins demonstrated compliance with all of NSF/ANSI Standard 61, Annex G requirements.

“Obtaining Annex G certification for our backflow preventers is important as our customers will know when they see the NSF Mark on our products that in addition to meeting the new low lead requirements, all health effect and performance requirements have also been met,” said Rick Fields, Wilkins Vice President of Sales and Marketing. “They know that with Wilkins, they are getting the ultimate in backflow prevention protection and performance.”

For meeting these requirements, Wilkins’ backflow preventers bear the [NSF Annex G Certification Mark](#). Wilkins is also listed on the [NSF’s Web site](#) to demonstrate compliance with the new requirements.

“We are pleased to issue Wilkins this certification as it demonstrates their commitment to environmental and public health protection,” said Bob Ferguson, NSF International Vice President.

Annex G was developed by NSF’s Lead Task Group with guidance from key regulators, proponents of the California lead bill, industry representatives and the NSF Standard 61 Joint Committee. The NSF

Joint Committee is comprised of balanced representation from public health, user communities and industry to ensure an open, transparent and consensus process.

For more information on NSF/ANSI Standard 61/Annex G requirements or NSF testing and certification services, visit [NSF's Web site](#) or contact Pete Greiner at 734.769.5517 or greinerp@nsf.org. A copy of Annex G as adopted in NSF/ANSI 61 – 2008 is available on [NSF's Web site](#). For additional information on Wilkins, [click here](#).