

SPECIALTY CERTIFICATIONS FOR DRINKING WATER TREATMENT UNITS



As a market leader, NSF International is consistently evaluating drinking water treatment trends and contaminants that are a threat to the global population. Our technical and laboratory staff often collaborate with other industry experts to develop technically appropriate test methodologies for specialty certifications, which we publish in the form of protocols. These protocols address specific harmful contaminants and allow manufacturers to prove their products reduce them.

With contaminants of concern varying from region to region, it's more important than ever to assess which specialty certifications may help your product stand out.

Here's a brief look at some of our most popular drinking water protocols:

NSF P477 REDUCTION OF MICROCYSTIN

This protocol includes requirements for verifying that point-of-use water filters can effectively reduce microcystin (toxins produced by blue-green bacteria) in drinking water, which are especially prevalent in warmer months. This protocol requires precise testing of filters using actual microcystins at levels representing some of the highest seen in drinking water. Reduction requirements are to the 0.3 ppb (parts per billion) level recommended by the U.S. EPA for children under 6 years of age.

NSF P473 REDUCTION OF PFOA/PFOS

NSF P473 provides manufacturers of point-of-use carbon-based and reverse osmosis drinking water treatment technologies with the opportunity to validate reduction claims associated with perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). Exposure to PFOA and PFOS over certain levels can result in various adverse health effects.



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NSF/JWPA P72 REDUCTION OF IODINE

NSF/JWPA P72 was developed by NSF International and the Japan Water Purifier Association (JWPA) to effectively evaluate point-of-use drinking water treatment units to ensure that they reduce all common forms of iodine in drinking water. This specialty certification is available only in Japan.

TESTING REQUIRED FOR SPECIALTY CERTIFICATIONS

Testing required for protocols is quite similar to the testing required for certification to the NSF/ANSI drinking water treatment unit standards. The major difference is the specialized test method used to establish contaminant reduction performance. Other requirements are essentially the same.

Testing to NSF drinking water protocols can include:

- > Structural integrity
- > Material safety
- > Contaminant reduction for the specific specialty contaminant(s) included in the protocol

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT WHEN GETTING CERTIFIED

When you're ready to pursue certification, NSF International makes it easy for you. Protocols like those listed above usually require seven steps to gain certification:



For more information on drinking water protocols or standards that apply to your product, visit www.nsf.org/info/dwtu.

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