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Lead Update & California NSF 61- Lead Task Group

California's Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law legislation that will reduce the amount of lead found in faucets, fittings, piping and other common plumbing parts installed and repaired throughout the state to just 0.25%.

CIPH has been participating on the NSF Lead Task Group (LTG) developing a possible program under the NSF 61 group (Annex G).

A number of things have happened in the last few months:

1. On November 17th, the NSF Council of Public Health Consultants approved by ballot the NSF 61 Annex G draft. This was the last stage in the ballot process. Annex G will be added to NSF 61 sometime in December, 2008 along with other changes to the NSF 61 Standard.
2. Two additional California bills were signed into law: SB 1334 and SB 1395. This has three important effects.
 - California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is to pull products from the market place and verify compliance with the 0.25% lead requirements (SB1395);
 - Products require 3rd party certification to the 0.25% lead requirement (SB1334);
 - Certifiers need to include testing of materials to DTSC protocols (SB1334).
3. The DTSC is now working with the Lead Task Group. The goal is to come up with:
 - a) A potential document or framework for a consensus-based testing protocol.
 - b) Identify mechanism for identifying issues related to implementation of the legislation in California.
 - c) Identify mechanism for gathering comments and suggestions on identified issues.
 - d) Identify mechanisms for addressing identified issues.
 - e) California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is not developing regulations but can adopt the protocols.
 - f) DTSC does not want to impose itself into standard-setting organizations or processes.

Framework for Consensus Testing Protocol:

- i) Needs to be clear, workable, and scientifically rigorous: it must be implementable, and lead to consistent results.
- ii) Third party certifiers can play a key role in developing a document.
- iii) California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) staff must be kept in the loop so a developed program will meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Once a draft of the laboratory methodology for verifying lead content is available for release, CIPH will seek manufacturer's feedback on the suggested procedures.

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating is a not-for-profit trade association. Founded in 1933, the Institute is a vibrant organization committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 260 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, hydronic heating, industrial, waterworks and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 600 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$4.6 billion annually.



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