



*NSF International Standard /
American National Standard*

NSF/ANSI 401 - 2014

Drinking Water Treatment Units -
Emerging Compounds/Incidental
Contaminants



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NSF International Standard/
American National Standard
for Drinking Water Treatment Units –

**Drinking water treatment units –
Emerging compounds/incidental
contaminants**

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Contents

1	General	1
1.1	Purpose	1
1.2	Scope	1
1.3	Alternate materials, designs, and construction	1
1.4	Chemical and mechanical reduction performance claims	1
1.5	Minimum requirements	2
2	Normative references	2
3	Definitions	3
4	Materials	3
4.1	Materials in contact with drinking water	3
4.2	Membrane preservatives	4
4.3	Temperature resistance	4
4.4	Materials evaluation	4
4.5	Gas chromatography/mass spectroscopy (GC/MS) analysis	6
4.6	Materials in contact with the user's mouth	8
5	Structural performance	15
5.1	Structural integrity	15
5.2	Acceptance	15
5.3	Working pressure	16
5.4	Structural integrity test methods	16
6	Minimum performance requirements	22
6.1	Performance indication of chemical reduction capacity	22
6.2	Elements	23
6.3	Flow control	23
6.4	Drinking fountain outlets	24
6.5	Hazards	24
6.6	Systems used in bottled water plants	24
6.7	Operation temperature	24
6.8	POE rated pressure drop	24
6.9	Minimum service flow	24
6.10	Rated service flow	25
6.11	Active agents and additives	25
7	Elective performance claims – test methods	26
7.1	General requirements	26
7.2	Chemical reduction claims	28
8	Instruction and information	33
8.1	Installation, operation, and maintenance instructions	33
8.2	Data plate	35
8.3	Replacement components	36
8.4	Performance data sheet	36
Annex A		A1
Annex B		B1
Annex C		C1

Foreword²

The purpose of this Standard is to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of drinking water treatment systems that are designed to reduce emerging compounds in public or private water supplies, such as pharmaceutical, personal care products (PPCPs), and endocrine disrupting compounds (EDCs).

While standards have existed to evaluate treatment products designed to reduce a wide range of potential compounds and contaminants in drinking water, there have been none for emerging compounds. These compounds have an increasing awareness among consumers and a desired demonstration of reduction among product manufacturers causing the need for proper methods of test and criteria.

In 2008, a task group was formed and charged with making recommendations to the Joint Committee regarding the feasibility of producing a standard (or standards) for EDCs and PPCPs. A subtask group was also formed in 2008 and charged with surveying data on target compounds and classes of compounds and to evaluate the state of analytical capabilities for these compounds.

The initial list of contaminants included in this Standard represent identified pharmaceutical, personal care and EDC compounds that have been identified in published studies as occurring with the highest frequency, and/or at the highest levels of those compounds identified and studied. While occurring at levels well below any known or measured health effect, the mere presence of these compounds in drinking water has resulted in increased concern on the part of consumers. It is anticipated that with the advancement of science additional compounds or classes of compounds will be identified that will result in similar levels of concern for consumers. It is envisioned that NSF/ANSI 401 can become the repository for these contaminants.

It has been discussed that should future toxicological studies and/or research determine that any of the compounds in this Standard pose health risks at the concentrations in this Standard, that the claims should be removed from this Standard and re-established in the appropriate health effects standard (e.g., NSF/ANSI 53).

This Standard was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units 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 Drinking Water Treatment Units at standards@nsf.org, or c/o NSF International, Standards Department, P.O. Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, USA.

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