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Status of Lead in Plumbing Products for Canada

CIPH members have been asking, ***“What’s happening with lead in plumbing products for Canada? And how will it affect my business?”***

Barring an unforeseen policy changes from Health Canada, the best answer from a regulatory perspective — there are no new Canadian regulations. The CSA B125 standard currently includes maximum lead content criteria- and is referenced in the National Plumbing Code.

CIPH along with allied associations including the Plumbing Manufacturers Institute (PMI) strives for a national and North American harmonized approach.

However this is an active file at Health Canada. Health Canada have been working on the lead issue, monitoring the updates to the U.S. Lead Copper Rule, and currently reexamining their own base science. This fundamental scientific work may take years to bring to a guideline or policy stage, and longer still to affect the codes and standards that govern the plumbing industry.

Current certified product already conforms to NSF 61 for material safety. CIPH is aware that industry is taking proactive steps and already offering low-lead product to the Canadian marketplace well ahead of any potential new Canadian regulation.

“The Institute’s Plumbing Industry Advisory Council will continue to advise and inform regulators, members and users across the country of any standards and policy developments that may affect lead in plumbing products”, reports PIAC Chair Paul McDonald (Bradford White Canada).

For more information on lead, please see the attached supplement.

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 250 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 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$5 billion annually.



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