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California's Lead Testing Protocol Released

Recently, the California Legislature passed laws reducing the amount of lead allowed in plumbing components to 0.25%. The intent of this legislation is to reduce the lead content in plumbing components intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption.

California Senate Bills 1334 and 1395 amended Health and Safety Code (HSC) requiring California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to coordinate with the State Department of Public Health (DPH) to ensure the certification and compliance of "lead-free" plumbing materials in order to protect the public from exposure to lead in drinking water.

DTSC's role to industry in implementing this legislation is:

1. Providing background information and general assistance to the public and compliance assistance to the affected industry;
2. Coordinating with DPH on regulatory issues;
3. Coordinating with the plumbing manufacturing industry and providing information on testing protocols;
4. Evaluating and selecting reliable and adequate test methods, protocols and sample preparation procedures;
5. Annually testing up to 75 faucet, fitting, and fixture samples to determine compliance with "lead-free" standards; and
6. Posting the testing results on DTSC's web site and transmitting them to DPH.

DTSC has released their testing protocol to assist industries who have to test their products to meet compliance with the California requirements in time for the January 1st, 2010 deadline.

Attached is a copy of DTSC's Testing and Evaluation of Lead Content in Plumbing Products, Materials and Components and the regulatory Fact Sheet.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

More information can be found at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/LeadInPlumbing.cfm>

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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