

# CERTIFICATION FOR RECREATIONAL WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS



NSF International is a world leader in testing and certification for recreational water products. NSF was the first to publish an American National Standard to address the health effects of pool and spa treatment chemicals. This addition to long-time industry standard NSF/ANSI 50: *Equipment for Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs and Other Recreational Water Facilities* addresses the risk and toxicity of pool chemicals.

**NSF/ANSI 50** provides health effects evaluation criteria for pool chemicals and also requires testing for trace contaminants in chemicals that are used in the treatment and circulation systems of swimming pools, spas and water parks. The evaluation criteria for pool and spa treatment chemicals are based on risk assessments for dermal contact, inhalation and ingestion exposures.

Any chemical used to treat pool or spa water may be evaluated to the requirements of NSF/ANSI 50. This includes chemicals for water balance, filtration aids, disinfectants and specialty products.

## RECREATIONAL WATER VERSUS POTABLE WATER CERTIFICATION

The well-known NSF/ANSI 60 standard addresses chemical contaminants and other impurities that are directly added to drinking water from treatment chemicals.

In many areas, product certification to NSF/ANSI 60: *Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals - Health Effects* is currently a requirement for regulatory acceptance of chemicals used in pool/spa water treatment. Although NSF/ANSI 60 addresses oral exposure (of water treated with an NSF/ANSI 60 compliant chemical), it does not address dermal or inhalation exposure to treatment chemicals. However, these parameters are now included under **NSF/ANSI 50 Annex R for pool chemicals**. The evaluation of toxicity risks, based on each of the exposure routes, is a key difference in the scope of the two standards: **NSF/ANSI 50 and NSF/ANSI 60**.

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