NSF standards related to lead in drinking water products

NOTE: This summary was prepared by VDH-ODW staff, based on information taken from a presentation given by Dave Purkiss, NSF (General Manager, Water Treatment and Distribution Products) at WaterJAM 2011, on this particular issue.

NSF/ANSI Standard 61

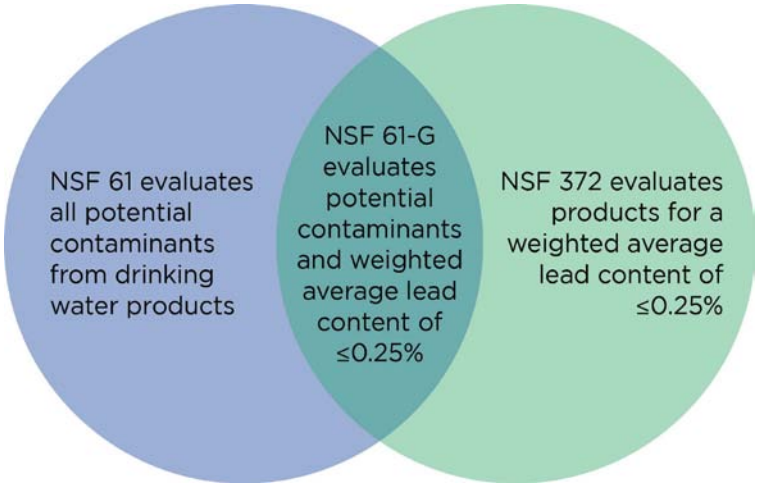
- Covers health effects of materials in treatment and distribution equipment
- Covers all products with drinking water contact from source to tap
- Does not evaluate product performance
- Evaluates amount of any contaminant added from a product to drinking water against health based criteria (DBH commentary – this is where the lead leaching requirement comes from)

NSF/ANSI Standard 61 – Annex G

- This is an **optional** Annex to NSF 61
- Addresses weighted average lead content of products
- Based on 0.25% weighted average
- References NSF/ANSI Standard 372

NSF/ANSI Standard 372

- Addresses weighted average lead content of products
- Based on 0.25% weighted average
- Separate standard developed to address products outside the scope of NSF 61 (examples)
    - Coffee machines
    - Point-of-use treatment devices



After 1 July 2012, all NSF 61 products must comply with lower lead **leaching** requirements, whether via optional Annex G or mandatory Annex F.

After 4 Jan 2014, all NSF 61 products that convey or dispense drinking water must comply with low lead **content** requirements, per PL 111-380. Before then, all NSF 61-G products will comply, but others that are just NSF 61 might not.