MEMORANDUM

TO: NSF Joint Committee on Swimming Pool and Spa Equipment

FROM: Steve Tackitt, Chairperson

DATE: February 26, 2008

SUBJECT: Ballot of NSF 50 Circulation system components and related materials for swimming pools, spas/hot tubs- (50i44r2)

Enclosed for your review and ballot is the current draft of NSF 50, issue 44, revision 2. Please review the changes proposed to this standard and submit your ballot by March 18, 2008 via the e-ballot system.

Purpose:
To incorporate requirements for skimmer testing, including UV exposure, point load and deflection testing for skimmer lids; and requirements for water levels and flow rates.

Background:
During the 2005 SPEJC meeting, it was reported that biofilm is able to grow on skimmer lids because the underside of skimmer lids are moist due to its proximity to pool water being just out of reach of the surface of the pool/spa water with the residual disinfectant. During the 2006 SPEJC meeting, it was moved that NSF investigate language on cleanability for future inclusion in the standard.

During the 2006 SPEJC meeting, it was also suggested that 1) language be incorporated to address surface skimmer fitting flow rates, 2) a task group be developed on skimmers to examine additional issues as they relate to skimmer safety, and 3) clarifications to the existing test protocol. After this task group met and began reviewing the current language, it was determined that there was a need to incorporate additional requirements for skimmers. This ballot includes the changes as proposed by this task group.

One negative comment was received on the first ballot in 2007; this comment is addressed in the current revision.

The task group is continuing to investigate the issue of biofilm growth and skimmer cleanability. This was previously addressed and is Issue 41. At this time, however, there are no recommendations regarding cleanability to present to the Joint Committee. Any updates in this area will likely be presented at the Joint Committee meeting in May.

Public Health Impact:
This will decrease the risk of skimmer mechanical/performance failure resulting in potential injury/hazards for spa and pool users.

If you have any questions about the technical content of the ballot, you may contact me in care of:

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