TO: Joint Committee on Biosafety Cabinetry
FROM: Robert W. Powitz, Chair of the Joint Committee
DATE: October 29, 2020
SUBJECT: Proposed revision to NSF/ANSI 49 – Biosafety Cabinetry: Design, Construction, Performance and Field Certification (49i159r2)

Revision 2 of NSF/ANSI 49, issue 159 is being forwarded to the Joint Committee for consideration. Please review the proposal and submit your ballot by November 12, 2020 via the NSF Online Workspace <www.standards.nsf.org>.

When adding comments, please identify the section number/name for your comment and add all comments under one comment number where possible. If you need additional space, please upload a word or pdf version of your comments online via the browse function.

Purpose
The purpose of this ballot is to affirm revised language in Standard 49 section 6.14 regarding electrical safety.

Background
In 2010, section 6.14 of NSF/ANSI 49 was revised to be more inclusive of markets outside North America. The issue proponent contends that while the intent of the change was indeed a positive move, the current language still limits global manufacturers in certifying their cabinets to Standard 49.

The proposal was sent to the JC as revision 1 ballot which resulted in a vote of 0 : 10 : 6 (Affirmative : Negative : Abstain). The comments overwhelmingly suggested that rather than simply remove the existing language in 6.14, new language should be added immediately following that provides guidance for cabinets manufactured, sold and used outside the North American market.

This revision 2 ballot reflects new language suggested in consult with the issue proponent and is offered here for your consideration.

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

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6 Performance

6.1 General

For qualification by the testing organization, BSCs shall meet the performance requirements listed in Sections 6.2 through 6.15, when tested in accordance with Annex N-1. All removable components within the cabinet that are offered as optional equipment by the manufacturer shall be in place during testing except during nominal set point downflow velocity determination.

6.14 Electrical safety

The cabinet shall be tested by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) for compliance to the requirements of the current edition of any national standard that is based on IEC 61010-1. Compliance is demonstrated by NRTL certification, (requires at least annual NRTL audits to maintain cabinet design certification) and cabinet listing, i.e., UL, CSA or IECEE CB Scheme certificate.

When a cabinet is not manufactured, not for sale and not for use in North America, the manufacturer may obtain certification through an organization regionally accredited to provide electrical safety testing to standards accepted in the market intended for sale and use of the cabinet and based on IEC 61010-1.

Rationale: language in this section requires an electrical certification by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL). The NRTL program is North American based which may hinder international electrical testing laboratories that may be equal to or better than those in North America.