ISSUE PAPER

NSF standard(s) impacted: NSF/ANSI/CAN 61

Purpose and background:

Provide a one or two sentence statement explaining the purpose of your recommendation. Also please provide a brief background statement indicating the cause and nature of concern, the impacts identified relevant to public health, public understanding, etc., and any other reason why the issue should be considered by the Committee. Reference as appropriate any specific section(s) of the standard(s) that are related to the issue.

When complex multi-component products are submitted for evaluation to the standard, there are often cases where, in addition to a test of the complete device, additional alternate materials require testing (e.g. alternate o-ring or gasket materials). In these cases, testing of the alternate material as a component would be more economical for the product manufacturer and easy to perform for testing laboratories, without sacrificing any degree of rigor in the test.

Under this proposed update, testing of the finished product would still be required for at least one sample, but subsequent, supplemental samples for the purposes of evaluating alternate individual materials would be allowed.

Additionally proposed is a clarification to the third bullet point in section 3.1.6.1 to specify that products with a **filled** weight (i.e. the weight of the sample when filled with exposure water) exceeding 34 kg/75 lbs may be evaluated using material samples.

Recommendation:

Clearly state what action is needed: e.g., recommended changes to the standard(s) including the current text of the relevant section(s) indicating deletions by use of ~~strike-out~~ and additions by highlighting or underlining; e.g., reference of the issue to a Task Group for detailed consideration, etc.

3.1.6 Samples

Samples shall consist of the entire finished product device, a portion(s) / component(s) of the finished product, or a specimen of the material(s). The manufacturer shall have the option to request that the samples represent a product line of varying sizes, as described in Section 3.1.5 and/or the relevant section of the standard to which the product is being evaluated. When it is necessary to calculate normalization factor(s), the wetted exposed surface area of the sample shall be calculated and recorded prior to testing.

3.1.6.1 Finished products

When a finished product (e.g., pipe, fitting, component, or device) is proposed for evaluation, a sample of the finished product shall be used for testing except in the following specific instances:

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— concrete cylinders, cubes, or other concrete surrogate samples may be evaluated on behalf of concrete lined pipes and other concrete-based products;

— coatings, applied to the appropriate substrate, may be evaluated on behalf of products whose entire water contact surface is covered by the coating; or

— finished products shall be permitted to be evaluated using material samples if a finished product evaluation is impractical for one or more of the following reasons:

- an internal volume > 20 L (5.3 gal);
- a filled weight > 34 kg (75 lb); ~~or~~
- *in situ* manufacture of the finished product.
- testing of individual alternate components is required supplemental to finished product testing.

Material samples shall be permitted to be evaluated on behalf of a finished product if no chemical or physical difference exists between the material sample and the material as represented in the finished product. All material samples shall be produced using the same manufacturing processes as the finished product.

Supplementary materials (photographs, diagrams, reports, etc.):

If not provided electronically, the submitter will be responsible to have sufficient copies to distribute to committee members.

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Submission date: 5/28/2025

Please submit to: Joint Committee Secretariat or to standards@nsf.org

**Type written name will suffice as signature*

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