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Joint Committee on Biosafety Cabinetry

August 25, 2025

Proposed revision to NSF/ANSI: 49 – Biosafety Cabinetry: Design, Construction, Performance and Field Certification (49i205r1)

Revision 1 of NSF/ANSI 49, issue 205 is being forwarded to the Joint Committee on Biosafety Cabinetry for consideration. Please review the proposal and **submit your ballot by September 15, 2025** via the NSF Online Workspace.

Please review all ballot materials. When adding comments, please include the section number for your comment and add all comments under one comment number whenever possible. If additional space is needed, you may upload a MS Word or .PDF version of your comments directly to the NSF Online Workspace.

Purpose

The purpose of this ballot is to affirm proposed revised language regarding the alternate inflow measurement methods in section N-5.3 of Standard 49.

Background

Issue paper **BSC-2024-06 – DIM Clearance** highlighted improved clearance language in section N-5.3 of Standard 49.

This issue was presented to the JC during the 2025 Face-to-Face meeting, at which time the group discussed and motioned the issue paper language be sent directly to JC Approval ballot.

This language is presented here for your consideration as revision 1 approval ballot.

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

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Chairperson, Joint Committee
c/o Allan Rose, Joint Committee Secretariat, NSF
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[Note – the recommended changes to the standard which include the current text of the relevant section(s) indicate deletions by use of ~~strikeout~~ and additions by grey highlighting. Rationale Statements are in *red italics* and only used to add clarity; these statements will NOT be in the finished publication.]

NSF/ANSI International Standard for Biosafety Cabinetry —

Biosafety Cabinetry: Design, Construction, Performance, and Field Certification

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Normative Annex 5

Field tests

N-5.3.3.2 Alternate inflow measurement methods

If the DIM method cannot be used, one of the alternative methods below may be used to determine the inflow velocity, if provided by the manufacturer.

Alternate inflow measurement methods shall only be used for any or all of the following reasons:

~~— the space between the face of the BSC and permanent fixture directly opposite the access opening is less than 42 in (1.1 m);~~

— the space between the base of the DIM and permanent fixture directly opposite the access opening is a minimum 6 in (150 mm);

— the BSC was certified by the testing organization prior to NSF/ANSI 49-2002, when the DIM method for measuring inflow velocity was added to the standard;

— testing is completed on a BSC not located in North America; and

— the owner / operator of the BSC requests use of a secondary method due to DIM instrument cleanability when the BSC is located in sterile area or clean room.

The DIM shall be used in all other circumstances.

Canopy-connected A1 and A2 cabinets must be tested with a method that measures the inflow volume at the work access opening