High-Efficiency Lavatory Faucet Specification

1.0 Scope and Objective

This specification establishes the criteria for high-efficiency lavatory faucets and faucet accessories[1] under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) WaterSense® program. It is applicable to lavatory faucets, lavatory faucet accessories specifically designed to control the flow of water, and any other lavatory faucet technologies that meet these performance specifications.

This specification applies to lavatory faucets in private use, such as in residences, and private restrooms in hotels and hospitals. Metering faucets, lavatory faucets in public use, and residential kitchen faucets are not covered by this specification.

The specification is designed to ensure both sustainable, efficient water use and a high level of user satisfaction with lavatory faucet and lavatory faucet accessory performance.

2.0 Water Efficiency and Performance Criteria

2.1 Lavatory faucets and lavatory faucet accessories must conform to applicable requirements in ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1 and NSF/ANSI Standard 61, Section 9.[2]

2.2 The flow rate of the lavatory faucet or the lavatory faucet accessory shall be tested in accordance with the procedures in ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1 and shall meet the following criteria:

- The maximum flow rate shall not exceed 1.5 gallons per minute (gpm)[3] (5.7 liters per minute [L/min]) at a pressure of 60 pounds per square inch (psi) at the inlet, when water is flowing; and
- The minimum flow rate shall not be less than 0.8 gpm (3.0 L/min) at a pressure of 20 psi at the inlet, when water is flowing.

A lavatory faucet is also considered to meet this flow rate requirement if equipped with a lavatory faucet accessory that meets this requirement.

2.3 The flow rate, tested in accordance with the procedures in ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1, shall meet the testing verification protocol as described in 10 *CFR* 430 Subpart F, Appendix B.

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[1] Accessory, as defined in ASME 112.18.1/CSA B125.1, means a component that can, at the discretion of the user, be readily added, removed, or replaced, and that, when removed, will not prevent the fitting from fulfilling its primary function. For the purpose of this specification, an accessory can include, but is not limited to lavatory faucet flow restrictors, flow regulators, aerator devices, and laminar devices.

[2] References to ASME/CSA and NSF/ANSI standards apply to the most current version.

[3] The maximum flow rate has been established as 1.5 gpm, which is a 32 percent reduction from the 2.2 gpm standard codified under 10 *CFR* Part 430 (63 FR 13307; March 18, 1998).

3.0 Non-Adjustability Criteria

The lavatory faucet or lavatory faucet accessory shall not be packaged, marked, or provided with instructions directing the user to an alternative water-use setting that would override the maximum flow rate of 1.5 gpm at 60 psi, as established by this specification.

Any instruction related to the maintenance of the product, including changing or cleaning faucet accessories, shall direct the user on how to return the product to its intended maximum flow rate.

4.0 Flow Rate Marking

The product and/or the product packaging shall be marked in accordance with 16 *CFR* 305.11(f) with the maximum flow rate in gpm and L/min as determined through testing and compliance with this specification. Marking shall be in gpm and L/min in two digit resolutions (e.g., 1.5 gpm [5.7 L/min]).

5.0 Effective Date

This specification is effective on October 1, 2007.

6.0 Future Specification Revisions

EPA reserves the right to revise this specification should technological and/or market changes affect its usefulness to consumers, industry, or the environment. Industry partners and other interested parties would be notified in advance of anticipated changes. Revisions to the specification would be made following discussions with industry partners and other interested parties.

7.0 Definitions

Definitions within ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1 and NSF/ANSI Standard 61, Section 9 are incorporated herein by reference.

Private Use – Applies to fittings for the private and restricted use of one or more individuals in dwelling units, including hotel guest rooms and hospital rooms, and other facilities that are not intended for public use.

Public Use – Applies to fittings for the unrestricted use of more than one individual (including employees) in assembly occupancies, business occupancies, public buildings, transportation facilities, schools and other educational facilities, office buildings, restaurants, bars, other food service facilities, mercantile facilities, manufacturing facilities, military facilities, and other facilities that are not intended for private use.

Appendix A

Informative Annex for WaterSense Labeling

The following requirements must be met for products to be marked with the WaterSense label.

1.0 WaterSense Partnership

The manufacturer[4] of the product must have a signed partnership agreement in place with EPA.

2.0 Conformity Assessment

Conformance to this specification must be certified by a body either accredited in accordance with the WaterSense certification scheme, or otherwise approved for that purpose by EPA in accordance with the WaterSense Program Guidelines.

[4] Manufacturer, as defined in the WaterSense Program Guidelines, means "Any organization that produces a product for market that might be eligible to meet WaterSense criteria for efficiency and performance. Manufacturers may also produce "private label" products that are sold under the brand name of a separate organization, which is treated as a separate partner/application from the original product manufacturer."