

NSF International Standard / American National Standard

NSF/ANSI 58 - 2018

Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Systems









NSF International, an independent, not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization, is dedicated to being the leading global provider of public health and safety-based risk management solutions while serving the interests of all stakeholders.

This Standard is subject to revision.

Contact NSF to confirm this revision is current.

Users of this Standard may request clarifications and interpretations, or propose revisions by contacting:

Chair, Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units
C/o NSF International
789 North Dixboro Road, PO Box 130140
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140 USA
Phone: (734) 769-8010 Telex: 753215 NSF INTL
Fow (734) 769 0400

Fax: (734) 769-0109 E-mail: info@nsf.org Web: <www.nsf.org>

NSF International Standard / American National Standard for Drinking Water Treatment Units –

# Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Systems

Standard Developer **NSF International** 

**Designated as an ANSI Standard**July 31, 2018 **American National Standards Institute** 

#### Prepared by

### The NSF Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units

Recommended for adoption by

The NSF Council of Public Health Consultants

Adopted by **NSF International**November 1986

Revised May 1990 Revised September 1996 Revised May 2000 Revised January 2002 Revised December 2003 Revised March 2006 Addendum May 2011 Revised December 2013 Revised November 2016 Revised November 1992 Revised September 1997 Revised November 2000 Addendum June 2002 Revised March 2004 Revised October 2007 Revised February 2012 Revised November 2014 Revised November 2017 Revised January 1996 Revised September 1999 Revised January 2001 Addendum October 2002 Revised June 2005 Revised August 2009 Revised December 2012 Revised October 2015 Revised March 2019

#### Published by

#### **NSF** International

PO Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, USA

For ordering copies or for making inquiries with regard to this Standard, please reference the designation 'NSF/ANSI 58 – 2018.'

Copyright 2019 NSF International

Previous editions © 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2009, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1997, 1996, 1992, 1990, 1986

Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from NSF International.

Printed in the United States of America.

#### Disclaimers 1

NSF International (NSF), in performing its functions in accordance with its objectives, does not assume or undertake to discharge any responsibility of the manufacturer or any other party. The opinions and findings of NSF represent its professional judgment. NSF shall not be responsible to anyone for the use of or reliance upon this Standard by anyone. NSF shall not incur any obligation or liability for damages, including consequential damages, arising out of or in connection with the use, interpretation of, or reliance upon this Standard. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to judge the suitability of the ANS for the user's purpose.

NSF Standards provide basic criteria to promote sanitation and protection of public health and the environment. Provisions for mechanical and electrical safety have not been included in this Standard because governmental agencies or other national standards-setting organizations provide safety requirements.

Participation in NSF Standards development activities by regulatory agency representatives (federal, local, state) shall not constitute their agency's endorsement of NSF or any of its Standards.

Preference is given to the use of performance criteria measurable by examination or testing in NSF Standards development when such performance criteria may reasonably be used in lieu of design, materials, or construction criteria.

The illustrations, if provided, are intended to assist in understanding their adjacent standard requirements. However, the illustrations may not include all requirements for a specific product or unit, nor do they show the only method of fabricating such arrangements. Such partial drawings shall not be used to justify improper or incomplete design and construction.

At the time of this publication, examples of programs and processes were provided for general guidance. This information is given for the convenience of users of this standard and does not constitute an endorsement by NSF International. Equivalent programs and processes may be used.

Unless otherwise referenced, the annexes are not considered an integral part of NSF Standards. The annexes are provided as general guidelines to the manufacturer, regulatory agency, user, or certifying organization.

.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The information contained in this Disclaimer is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Disclaimer may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the Standard.

## Contents

1	General1			
	1.1	Purpose	1	
	1.2	Scope	1	
	1.3	Chemical and mechanical reduction performance claims		
	1.4	Treatment train		
2	Norm	ative references	2	
3	Defin	itions	2	
4	Mate	rials	3	
	4.1	Materials in contact with drinking water		
	4.2	Membrane preservatives		
	4.3	Temperature resistance		
	4.4	Materials evaluation		
	4.5	Gas chromatography / mass spectroscopy (GC/MS) analysis		
5	Struc	tural performance		
	5.1	Structural integrity	12	
_	N 41: m 1: m		4-	
6		num performance requirements		
	6.1	General		
	6.2	Flow control		
	6.3	Reject water connections		
	6.4	Storage tank capacity		
	6.5	Product water dispensing outlets		
	6.6	Drinking fountain outlets		
	6.7	Performance indication		
	6.8	Hazards		
	6.9	TDS reduction, recovery rating, and efficiency rating claims		
	6.10	Alternate air gap device test method	25	
7	Elect	ive performance claims – Test methods	27	
	7.1	Chemical reduction claims		
	7.2	Mechanical filtration claims		
	7.3	Data transfer protocol (DTP)		
8		ictions and information		
	8.1	Installation, operation, and maintenance instructions		
	8.2	Data plate		
	8.3	Performance data sheet	52	
Δn	nex A	Key elements of a certification program for drinking water treatment systems and		
,	110/17	components	58	
	A.1	Marking the product		
	A.2	Listing certified companies		
	A.3	Annual audits		
	A.3 A.4			
		Testing		
	A.5	Toxicological evaluation of materials formulations		
	A.6	Corrective action		
	A.7	Enforcement		
	A.8	Administrative review		
	A.9	Appeals		
	A.10	Complaints	61	

A.11	Advertising	61
A.12	Records	61
A.13	Public notice	61
A.14	Confidentiality	61
Annex B	Example fact sections for pentavalent arsenic treatment systems	63
B.1	Example 1	
B.2	Example 2	
Annex C		65
Annex D	Methods and procedures to minimize premature filter plugging	67
D.1	Mechanical filtration component of tested system	
D.2	Mechanical filtration of waters	67
D.3	Disinfection and cleaning of test apparatus	67
D.4	Antimicrobial treatment	68
D.5	Methanol used as carrier solvent	68
D.6	Operational cycle	68
Annex E E.1	Evaluation methods for systems with multiple technologies – Treatment train	69
	technologies	69
E.2	Example application of treatment train option B	70
E.3	Example application of treatment train option C	71
Annex F	Test method for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) in	
	general test water by LC/MS/MS in electrospray negative ionization mode	73
F.1	Summary of method	73
F.2	Definitions	
F.3	Standards for PFOA/PFOS analysis	73
F.4	Preparation for PFOA/PFOS instrumental analysis	75
F.5	Apparatus and conditions for PFOA/PFOS analysis	76
F.6	Sample analysis	
F.7	Quality control	77
	Revision to the evaluation of lead	
G.1	Background	
G.2	Reduction in pass/fail criteria for lead (Pb) reduction performance testing	
G.3	Additional information on lead	
G 1	References	20

#### Foreword<sup>2</sup>

The purpose of this Standard is to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of point-of-use reverse osmosis drinking water treatment systems. NSF/ANSI 58 also specifies minimum product literature requirements that manufacturers must provide to authorized representatives and owners. Minimum service related obligations for manufacturers to extend to system owners are also specified in this Standard.

Water contact materials in Drinking Water Treatment Units listed under NSF/ANSI 42, 44, 53, 55, 58, and 62 are tested and evaluated under a separate protocol from NSF/ANSI 61 with criteria that were developed specifically for the intended end-use. NSF/ANSI 61 listing should not be additionally required for acceptance of these listed units for water contact application.

This edition of the Standard contains the following revisions:

#### Issue 80

This revision addresses inconsistent language across the scopes of the DWTU Standards and adds clarifying language on systems that include components or functions covered under other NSF Standards.

#### Issue 82

This revision added a uranium reduction claim to Table 7.2 and Section 7.1.2.5.

#### Issue 83

The revision adds a performance reduction claim for perfluorocctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluoroctane sulfonate (PFOS) for reverse osmosis (RO) systems.

#### Issue 85

Informational Annex G was added to notify the user of an upcoming ballot in 2019 to revise the current pass/fail criteria for lead reduction from 10  $\mu$ g/L to 5  $\mu$ g/L.

This Standard was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units using the consensus process described by the American National Standards Institute.

Suggestions for improvement of this Standard are welcome. This Standard is maintained on a Continuous Maintenance schedule and can be opened for comment at any time. Comments should be sent to: Chair, Joint Committee on Drinking Water Treatment Units at standards@nsf.org, or c/o NSF International, Standards Department, PO Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, USA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The information contained in this Foreword is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Foreword may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the Standard.

© 2019 NSF NSF/ANSI 58 – 2018

NSF/ANSI Standard for Drinking Water Treatment Units –

# Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Systems

#### 1 General

#### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Standard is to establish minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of reverse osmosis (RO) drinking water treatment systems. This Standard also specifies the minimum product literature that manufacturers shall supply to authorized representatives and owners, as well as the minimum service-related obligations that manufacturers shall extend to system owners.

#### 1.2 Scope

The point-of-use RO drinking water treatment systems addressed by this Standard are designed to be used for the reduction of specific substances that may be present in drinking water (public or private) considered to be microbiologically safe and of known quality. Systems covered by this Standard are intended for reduction of total dissolved solids (TDS) and other contaminants specified herein. They may be chemical or particulate (including filterable cysts) in nature. It is recognized that a system may be effective in controlling one or more of these contaminants, but systems are not required to control all, however, TDS testing is required. Systems with manufacturer claims that include components or functions covered under other NSF or NSF/ANSI Standards or Criteria shall conform to the applicable requirements therein. Systems covered by this Standard are not intended to be used with drinking water that is microbiologically unsafe or of unknown quality without adequate disinfection before or after the system.

NOTE — Systems that are compliant with NSF/ANSI 55 Class A or other standards that cover technologies to treat microbiologically unsafe water (e.g., US EPA Guide Standard and Protocol for Testing Microbiological Water Purifiers or NSF P231) are examples of demonstrating adequate disinfection before or after the system.

#### 1.3 Chemical and mechanical reduction performance claims

- **1.3.1** All NSF/ANSI 58 performance claims shall be verified and substantiated by test data generated under the requirements of NSF/ANSI 58.
- **1.3.2** When performance claims are made for substances not specifically addressed in the scope of this Standard or for those substances not specifically addressed but falling under the scope of NSF/ANSI 58, claims not specifically addressed in the Standard shall be so identified.

#### 1.4 Treatment train

A system that contains multiple, sequential treatment technologies for a performance claim under this Standard shall meet the applicable requirements as described in Annex E.