



38 RAMSAY ROAD
FIVE DOCK NSW 2046
PHONE: 1800 430 890
FAX: 07 5677 0222

19th March 2023

New Australian Standard 3497:2022

The new Australian Standard 3497 is now operational and supersedes the previous AS/NZS 3497. All products and cartridges must now conform to this new standard

NEW STANDARD VARIATIONS

The previous standard required companies to ensure labelling conformed to AS/NZS 4348 where any specific performance claims were made, ie Chlorine, Cyst reduction. The conformity mandated the label included a statement that the claims met AS/NZS 4348.

Under the new standard, the notations are very different.

Where a specific performance is claimed, under the new AS/NZS 3497 these AS/NZS 4348 claims are now noted as a **Verified Performance Claim (VPC)**. A VPC is a claim that has been tested in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS 4348, ie independent testing to the standards of the equivalent NSF International

Where a VPC is made the ACBC, the governing body overseeing Watermark may at any time audit to view the NSF test results pertaining to the claim.

Where a claim is made that has not been independently performance tested to NSF Standards, ie non AS/NZS 4348 compliant, then that label must include a **Non-Verified Performance Claims (NVPC)** section on it .

These NVPCs alert consumers to the fact these claims have not been independently tested

The new standard no longer references the AS/NZS 4348 standard be mentioned on either the label nor the ACBC Certifiers listing. It is now redundant. The certifiers duty is to now hold updated copies of the NSF test results where any VPCs are made by a manufacturer.

There are certain claims that cannot be listed as NVPCs under any circumstances.

They include Chlorine reduction, taste & odour reduction, particulate reduction and cyst reduction. These claims, if not verified under the guidance of the tests set out in AS/NZS 4348 cannot be made or appear on any labels, product or website. It is mandated that where these claims are made, they must be supported and verified by independent NSF testing.

The ACBC is now undertaking a sweep throughout the industry and starting to remove previously held watermarks listed on the ACBC website for noncompliance with testing. Only companies holding NSF testing to AS/NZS 4348 are now able to make any VPC

Saipol's ACBC registered certifier Pro Switch Pty Ltd holds all Saipol's independent test results and Saipol is fully certified to both AS 3497:2022 & AS/NZS 4348

Saipol also holds certification to AS/NZS 4020, a further new requirement under AS/NZS 3497

Sincerely
Saipol Pty Ltd

Carmine Polzella
Sales Director