# ESAFETY'S SAKE



**NSF-certified chlorination system guide** 



This guide was developed in cooperation with NSF® International exclusively for county and local health officials. Its purpose is to help officials quickly spot improper operation of the Accu-Tab® Chlorination System, related to the use of substitute or "knock-off" chlorine tablets, and take necessary or corrective action.

NSF International certifies flow-through chemical feeders to the requirements of NSF/ANSI Standard 50. Feeders are certified for use only with chemicals recommended by the manufacturer of the feeder and certification is void if different chemicals are utilized.

#### There are no NSF-certified substitutes for *Accu-Tab* 3-inch Blue and Blue SI (scale inhibitor) Tablets.

Accu-Tab 3-inch Blue and Blue SI (calcium hypochlorite) tablets are formulated with a special blue salt that gives them a blue appearance. Only Accu-Tab Blue tablets contain this colorant, which distinguishes them from other types of chlorine tablets such as Trichor—similar in size and shape and almost always solid white. Trichor, as well as many other forms of chlorine, is not compatible with Accu-Tab blue tablets. Mixing of these tablets could increase the risk of fire, explosion or development of noxious fumes!

Using products other than *Accu-Tab* blue tablets in an *Accu-Tab* system is in violation of NSF/ANSI Standard 50 certification and could cause a potentially dangerous situation. For more information or emergency assistance, contact *Accu-Tab* Technical Assistance at **1-800-245-2974**.



Accu-Tab Blue calcium hypochlorite tablets are packaged in a 55-lb. plastic pail as shown.

#### How do the Accu-Tab Blue and Blue SI tablets work within the chlorination system?

Accu-Tab Commercial Pool Chlorination Systems have been engineered and laboratory-tested using only Accu-Tab Blue 3-inch tablets to certify their performance within specific NSF/ANSI Standard 50 guidelines. As long as Accu-Tab Blue tablets are used according to manufacturer's directions, chlorine will be consistently delivered into pool water based upon published delivery curves. See how water flows through a chlorinator in graphic below.



- Accu-Tab tablets are placed on the sieve plate in the Accu-Tab chlorinator.
- 2. Incoming untreated water enters the chlorinator from a side stream.
- 3. It rises through the holes in the sieve plate to reach the tablets.
- Tablets erode at a predictable rate according to the amount of water that enters, allowing for a consistent delivery rate.
- Chlorinator effluent (treated water) is returned to the main system flow with the appropriate amount of chlorine.



# Why should only *Accu-Tab* Blue or Blue SI tablets be used in an *Accu-Tab* system?

The Accu-Tab Commercial Pool Chlorination System is NSF/ANSI Standard 50 certified as long as it is operated using only Accu-Tab 3-inch Blue or Blue SI calcium hypochlorite tablets.

Use of *any* other tablets voids the System's NSF listing, putting the subject pool out of compliance with state and local health codes that rely upon NSF guidelines for automatic chlorine feed systems.

#### What might happen as a result of using knock-off tablets?

Use of knock-off tablets in a chlorination system certified by NSF International can cost everyone from pool operators to the general public. Why?

Tablets not tested and certified by NSF for use in specific systems can damage equipment and void the manufacturer's warranty and will violate state codes that require compliance with NSF/ANSI Standard 50. They can also result in significant health and safety risks including:

- under/over chlorination of water due to varying delivery rates
- increased potential for explosion, development of noxious fumes, and fire due to mixing of incompatible chemicals
- unacceptable increases in stabilizer levels caused when isocyanurate tablets (typically white) are used in place of calcium hypochlorite tablets, which can severely inhibit chlorine's effectiveness in water



## How can you recognize improper operation of a system or use of knock-off tablets?

Accu-Tab Commercial Pool Chlorinators come in a variety of sizes and operational configurations to meet specific pool chlorine delivery requirements. All of these units utilize patented erosion technology to consistently and reliably deliver chlorine as long as the NSF-designated Accu-Tab Blue or Blue SI calcium hypochlorite tablets are used.



## What should you do to report or correct improper operation of an NSF-certified chlorination system?

As mentioned throughout this guide, operating an Accu-Tab Chlorination System outside of manufacturer's instructions and/or NSF/ANSI Standard 50 guidelines could present serious health and safety risks. If you notice improper use (including mixing) of chemicals, please contact Accu-Tab Technical Assistance at 1-800-245-2974. For any other system, please contact NSF International at 800-NSF-MARK to help you reach the manufacturer.





NSF International 789 N. Dixboro Road Ann Arbor, MI 48113 www.nsf.org



Axiall Water Treatment Products 11 Stanwix Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222 800-245-2974 www.accu-tab.com

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