



Alert: Important safety information related to swimming pool chemicals

As we begin another season in the recreational water industry, and in conjunction with National Water Safety Month, NSF International is providing this important safety announcement.

Over the past several years NSF has received reports of some chemical distributors supplying chemicals that are either incompatible with the chlorination systems used in swimming pools, and spas or do not meet NSF/ANSI 50 quality standards which verify and certify chemical delivery using a specific system. This can pose potential hazards to your staff and customers. That is why I am writing to stress the importance of using only manufacturer's specified chemicals in these chlorination systems.

NSF Certifies flow-through chemical feeders to the requirements of NSF/ANSI Standard 50. **Feeders are certified for use only with chemicals recommended for use by the manufacturer of the feeder.** All NSF 50 Certified feeders must have a data plate that states: "*use of chemicals other than those recommended by the manufacturer may be hazardous.*"

The NSF Certification of feeders is void if different chemicals are utilized. The reason for this is because using one form of chlorine compound with a feeder designed specifically for another could bring about an incompatibility situation resulting in fire, explosion and/or generation of poisonous gases. There have been numerous cases where operators have inadvertently mixed incompatible chemicals such as calcium hypochlorite and trichloroisocyanuric acid, which results in an explosion. Also the potential for inconsistency in chemical concentration resulting from the use of incorrect chemical type, configuration, or brand could result in inadequate or excessive chlorination.

The accompanying pamphlet ***For Safety's Sake*** addresses this issue.

Listings of NSF 50 Certified feeders and use restrictions can be found on our website at: <http://info.nsf.org/Certified/Pool/>, by searching under Flow-Through Feeders, under Product type. For more information concerning safety requirements specific to public pools, visit: <http://poolsafely.gov/industry-operators-professionals/>

Please contact me at your convenience with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Purkiss".

Dave Purkiss
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