



DRINKING WATER INSTALLATIONS

Getting health and safety assessments to obtain Danish regulatory approvals

To ensure that consumers have access to tap water that meets Danish quality requirements, all building components in contact with drinking water must be assessed and approved. We assist you with health and safety assessments of pipes, fittings, filters, water coolers and other products to ensure that no harmful substances are released. This can effectively help you obtain approval and certification for drinking water installations in Denmark.

APPROVING AUTHORITIES

The Danish Transport and Construction Agency – the authority responsible for safe building materials – and the Danish Nature Agency, which is responsible for drinking water quality, establish rules for drinking water installations. A product can be approved once the health and safety assessments are completed with satisfactory test and evaluation results, and when appropriate documentation is in place. Two bodies issue approvals:

- **The Secretariat for Building Components Approved for Drinking Water**

The Secretariat (also called the GDV-Secretariat) is the approving authority for products without product-specific standards. This group of products includes fittings, rubber membranes, plastic components for valves and coatings used in the drinking water installation in a building. This mandatory approval scheme of health-related properties of a building component is called a GDV approval.

- **Dancert A/S**

Dancert A/S issues certificates for standardised products, for example plastic pipes made of Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or Polyethylene (PE) used in the drinking water installation from the water works and to the building. Dancert A/S issues the DK-VAND certificates.

CLIENT

- Companies that import installations intended for connection to drinking water systems in Denmark
- Companies that manufacture installations intended for connection to drinking water systems in Denmark

CHALLENGE

Need to document the safety of installations used in drinking water systems

SOLUTION

- Assessment of the hazardous health effects of installations intended for drinking water systems
- Preparation of statements that establish the safety of the installations in order to fulfil approval and licensing requirements

VALUE

- Assurance of product safety before submitting it for certification or approval
- Compliance with regulations concerning drinking water in Denmark



When you use or supply components for drinking water installations in Denmark, authority approval of the component is mandatory.

Both the GDV approval and the DK-VAND certificate must be renewed regularly. Consequently, the product must also be assessed and tested regularly.



Water coolers connected to the drinking water supply network require a GDV approval.

TOXICOLOGICAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS AND TESTING

Before an importer or manufacturer can apply for an approval or a certificate, the company will need a health assessment of the product. This will provide documentation on any health impact related to hazardous migration from the product. Specific product information of any plastic materials that come in contact with drinking water are required. This data is collected from the manufacturer and sub-suppliers of raw materials.

We carry out the toxicological (health and safety) assessments of products for drinking water use. On behalf of the applicant, we collect confidential information on the chemical product composition from the raw material supplier(s). We then assess the product and select parameters including critical substances for the test programme.

For each product, we develop a product-specific test programme for migration analyses to be carried out at a test laboratory. We review the test results when testing is completed and this assessment establishes whether the



Installations connected to the drinking water supply network on a property must have a GDV approval. This includes polyethylene (PE) pipes, multilayer pipes, fittings, valves and coatings.

product meets the quality criteria in the regulation and is suitable for contact with drinking water.

CRITERIA FOR OBTAINING APPROVAL OR CERTIFICATE

Besides fulfilling the criteria for low or no release of undesirable substances into the drinking water, the product materials must not lead to changes in the water's odour and taste.

As part of the evaluation, we consult recognised recommendations and scientific evaluations such as the recommendations from the German risk assessment institute 'Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung' (BfR). We also make use of any official scientific evaluations of substances intended for food packaging, including evaluations by the European Union's Scientific Committee on Foods (SCF).

Finally, when evaluating products and materials, we consider:

- the area in direct contact with water
- the flow-through time of the water
- whether it involves a long drinking water bearing pipe
- whether it involves a small valve in a pump house, through which water only passes for a short period of time



Formerly, approval of water meters was voluntary. Since 2013, it has been mandatory to have a GDV approval.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT FROM BEGINNING TO END

We can assist you in obtaining the Danish approvals by:

- identifying relevant parts of your product for further evaluation
- collecting confidential and detailed product composition from sub-suppliers
- conducting toxicological health assessments of materials intended for drinking water installations
- preparing test programmes for your test laboratory
- assessing test results and issue product assessments
- corresponding with the Danish certification bodies to assist in GDV approvals and DK-VAND certifications

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For more information, visit: www.dhigroup.com