

WATER SAFETY PLAN

For Cooling Tower and Evaporative Condensers



Why have a Water Safety Plan?

Legionella is a type of bacteria commonly found in water. Water re-circulates throughout cooling tower and evaporative condenser systems at the **ideal temperature** range for *Legionella* growth, and **airborne water droplets** can contain *Legionella*. Therefore, cooling towers have been **associated with high-profile outbreaks of Legionnaires' Disease**.

A Water Safety Plan approach has been recognized by organizations such as the **World Health Organization** and **ASHRAE** as the industry best practice for managing risk and potential liability.

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015, Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems, provides a holistic risk management framework to create and successfully implement a Water Safety Plan.

What is a Water Safety Plan?

A Water Safety Plan includes a **hazard analysis**, ongoing program for managing risk, including **monitoring** and preventative maintenance **procedures**, as well as requirements to **confirm and document** that the program is effective at controlling the hazard.

Do Water Safety Plans only apply to Cooling Tower and Evaporation Condenser Systems?

Legionella can be present in any building water system; however, certain types of water systems and facilities have been associated with higher levels of risk. Criteria in the ASHRAE 188 Standard specify that any facility with a cooling tower or evaporative condenser is subject to the requirements of the standard for those systems. Your representative can determine if a Water Safety Plan is also required for water systems other than your cooling systems.



What is Required to Prepare a Water Safety Plan for Cooling Towers and Evaporative Condensers?

We take a two-step approach to prepare a Water Safety Plan for these systems:

- 1. Environmental assessment to compare the facility to known risk factors
- 2. Preparation of a draft Water Safety Plan and formation of an internal team at the facility to review and agree on the content of the final Water Safety Plan

What are the Ongoing Plan Requirements for Managing Risk?

Facility management is then responsible to implement and verify/validate the actions included in the Water Safety Plan. We have the tools to assist with implementation and confirmation that the ongoing program is effectively controlling hazards, such as:

- Monthly verification of control measures
- Disinfection Kits
- Legionella sampling and culturing for validation
- Online portal for document management
- Annual audit and comprehensive program review









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