



SGS Launches Certification Program for Plumbing Products; D’Vontz Signs On to New IAS-Accredited Certification Service

Extends SGS’ Existing Quality Assurance Offerings for Plumbing Industry

ATLANTA, GA (May 1, 2009) – SGS Consumer Testing Services today announced a new certification program for plumbing products that extends the company’s long-standing testing services for the plumbing industry. SGS can now both test and certify products for their adherence to the Uniform and International Plumbing Codes, offering market advantages including rapid turnaround, competitive pricing, and testing labs around the world.

SGS is accredited for testing under ISO 17025 and for certification under ISO Guide 65 by the International Accreditation Association (IAS). Services include on-site quality systems inspections at customers’ factories as well as product testing and certification in-house at SGS labs.

The first manufacturer to take advantage of the new program is D’Vontz, which has garnered international awards and recognition for the design and development of their fashion plumbing products and accessories. The D’Vontz copper line will be the first to receive the SGS-USTC certificate of compliance, with the rest to follow shortly.

“SGS offers a comprehensive program with upfront pricing, one-stop testing and certification, years of experience in the plumbing industry, and active involvement in industry committees,” said John Kellerstrass, Vice President of D’Vontz. “We expect them to be our quality assurance partner over the long term.”

“Over the years, we have talked to many plumbing products manufacturers who have been looking for alternative certification services that can provide a global footprint as well as competitive pricing,” said J. Brian McDonald, SGS Tulsa Operations Manager. “This is a logical extension of our testing services for the plumbing industry and a way for manufacturers to use the same testing and certification service for products produced anywhere in the world.”

SGS also provides prototype testing, complete production article evaluation, follow-up inspection, listing and labeling, independent test witnessing, and liability claim investigation for the plumbing industry. The company performs complete evaluations of fixtures and fittings for compliance to the applicable standards. Testing is accepted by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, Inc., American Society

of Sanitary Engineers, International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Affiliates, National Evaluation Service and other code groups.

Inquiries about SGS services for the plumbing industry should be directed to brian.mcdonald@sgs.com or scott.parkhurst@sgs.com.

About SGS Consumer Testing Services

SGS Consumer Testing Services is a division of the SGS Group, which is the world's leading verification, testing and certification company. The company's comprehensive testing, product inspection, process assessment and technical services cover the entire supply chain from product development to retailing for electrical products, wireless products, soft line products, hard line products and food products. SGS' global network and expertise provide a single consolidated source that can help manufacturers, suppliers and retailers reduce risk, improve efficiency and product quality, and ensure compliance to both national and international standards. SGS Group has more than 50,000 employees and over 1,000 offices and laboratories in 140 countries. For more information about SGS Consumer Testing Services, visit www.us.sgs.com/cts