



New ANSI Pool and Spa Standard to Prevent Suction Entrapment

Dear Code and Health Official:

In our mutual desire to prevent pool and spa incidents, I wish to share with you a recently approved ANSI standard to help strengthen state and local pool and spa legislation.

The Association of Pool and Spa Professionals (APSP) would like to provide you with a complimentary electronic copy of ***“ANSI/APSP-7 2006, American National Standard for Suction Entrapment Avoidance in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs, and Catch Basins.”***

We ask that you consider this standard for incorporation or reference into your respective pool and spa code.

If you would like a free electronic copy, please [click here](#).

The APSP has been writing standards since the 1980s that include construction methods designed to decrease the chance of suction entrapment. However, the scope of the ANSI/APSP-7 2006 standard codifies into a single standard the previous requirements in the APSP's standards, in combination with the latest known and available industry technologies to prevent suction entrapment in pools and spas.

The new standard leaves the door open for new technology (e.g., automatic pump/motor shut-off systems) and includes options such as a single unblockable outlet (drain), dual and multiple outlets (drains), a single outlet swim jet system, gravity flow systems, listed manufactured SVRS, and engineered vent systems. It includes an option for pools and spas to be built without a main drain (suction outlet). Millions of large aboveground pools circulate and sanitize water effectively without the need for submerged suction outlets. The options offered in the standard will provide the builder and the home owner with choices on how to prevent suction entrapment.

The new ANSI/APSP-7 standard provides a model code for national, state, and local officials. It will be of use to designers, builders, and inspectors in protecting against entrapment hazards in aquatic facilities. This APSP standard is the first comprehensive approach to engineering swimming pools and spas to avoid all five suction entrapment hazards. It is a consensus of opinion that if pools and spas are installed and maintained in accordance with this ANSI/APSP-7 2006 standard, there should never be another suction entrapment incident.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail offer to other officials in your code compliance network.

To learn more about the APSP and its consumer safety messages go to: www.theAPSP.org

For free pool and spa safety literature, call toll-free: **1.800.323.3996**.

Thank you, and I look forward to working with you.

Carvin DiGiovanni
Senior Director, Standards and Government Relations
CDiGiovanni@theAPSP.org
703.838.0083 ext. 149



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