



# Watermark Certification

## A Guide to the WaterMark Certification Scheme (WMCS)

All products designed for plumbing and drainage purposes in Australia must comply with the requirements set out by the Plumbing Regulators.

The objective of the WaterMark Certification Scheme is to provide a uniform national approach to plumbing product approvals. Under the Scheme, provided that your product carries the WaterMark, it will be accepted for use in all Australian states and territories - subject to correct installation practices in accordance with AS/NZS 3500 and any local deviations.

The procedures and technical requirements of this scheme are identified in:

### **AS 5200.000-2006 Technical specification for plumbing and drainage products - Procedures for certification of plumbing and drainage products.**

Standards can be purchased from SAI Global InfoStore <http://infostore.saiglobal.com/store/>

In the WaterMark Scheme, approval is based on the certification of products to nominated Standards and Technical Specifications as listed in AS 5200.000-2006, and to a Certification Level generally related to a product's application within the plumbing system.

Products that are not specifically listed can be assessed if authorisation is required by the development of a Technical Specification and the allocation of a Certification Level.

Below is a brief outline of the types of products covered by each certification level and the basics of the certification process.

### WaterMark Level 1

WaterMark Level 1 certification is generally applied to products that are installed in the hot or cold water supply system with pressure applications. Typical product groups that fall under this certification level are:

*Water Heaters*

*Hot and Cold Water Supply Pipes and Fittings*

*Taps and Valves*

*Sanitary Fixtures - Water Closets, Bidet/Bidettes*

*Appliances (High Hazard)*

*Water Filters and Water Treatment Devices*

Similar to the StandardsMark Scheme, it is a System 5 program. The certification process comprises of:

**1. Product review** that includes design review and testing to determine product compliance with the relevant Australian or International Standard, or Australian Technical Specification (ATS) as identified in AS 5200. The Standard or Technical Specification addresses requirements, such as:

- Materials used for the product.
- Design specifics
- Performance and functionality, including durability
- Marking and installation instructions.

SAI Global will provide listing of recognised laboratories for product testing.

**2. Initial and ongoing assessment of the product manufacture** and associated quality plan. The certification procedures are defined in the WaterMark Level 1 Product Compliance Program (PCP14), which is available on the SAI Global





**WaterMark**



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website: <http://www.saiglobal.com/product-certification/downloads/>

### WaterMark Level 2

WaterMark Level 2 certification is generally applied to products that are installed in the sanitary and drainage system. Typical product groups that fall under this certification level are:

*Sanitary and Drainage Pipes and Fittings*

*Sanitary and Drainage Valves*

*Appliances (Low/Medium Hazard)*

The certification process includes design and product information review and product testing as in the WaterMark Level 1 Certification. However, as no assessment of the manufacturing processes is involved, the Certificate has an expiry date. As part of the renewal process for a further period, a reassessment process applies, and this normally requires further testing.

#### **Certification Process for Products that do not fall into AS5200 categorie**

When the product is not specifically listed in AS 5200.000 separate procedures are in place to establish whether certification is required, the Standard that may be applicable and the appropriate certification level.

Full details of these procedures can be found in AS 5200.000 or via contacting SAI Global.

#### **Timing**

The timing to achieve certification depends largely on how well prepared you are to implement the process.

For a simple WaterMark Level 2 certification, a certificate can be issued within 2-3 weeks from the time you submit a complete complying test report (from SAI Recognised Laboratory) and other technical documentation.

For WaterMark Level 1 certification, the time frame depends on the length of time required for product testing and your readiness for assessment of the manufacturing processes. Normally the process takes 3-6 months.

#### **Fees**

Fees vary in accordance with the level of certification required, the product type, the number of products requiring certification, and the location and size of the site/s of manufacture (WaterMark Level 1). The Fees will be quoted upon request from SAI Global.

### SAI Global Expertise

SAI Global Product Services has offered certification services since the 1960s. A product certification audit specifically focuses on the product's compliance to its specification and/or relevant Standard.

SAI Global certifies to almost 500 different product Standards and has over 3,000 certified licensees.

Successful certification enables the Manufacturer to apply the certification mark and stated Standard on the product, as evidence of independent verification of compliance.

All SAI Global Technical Managers, Client Managers and Auditors demonstrate high levels of knowledge, skill and experience in a range of certification programs and auditing competencies. SAI Global primarily utilises full time permanent staff, so that they are more readily available to meet our clients'





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needs.

In accordance with applicable international operating Standards and accreditation requirements, all SAI Global Technical Managers, Client Managers and Auditors are trained and qualified to work independently or to lead a team for all accredited certification programs.



Australian Standard

### Dual Marking Option for Plumbing Products

SAI Global provides a Dual Marking option, which has been specifically made available to those of SAI clients that

- Seek to sell to markets with both water and gas applications
- Seek to differentiate their plumbing products with the StandardsMark branding

The Dual Marking Service applies to products that are within one standard and that can be certified under both WaterMark Level 1 and StandardsMark Schemes.

### Product database

This exciting database facility has been made publicly available to assist users in making informed purchasing decisions by ensuring products have been certified by Australia's leading product certification body, SAI Global Product Services.

A large number of government agencies also use this database to verify marked product is in fact currently certified by SAI Global.

The SAI Global Product Database can be found on the SAI Global Product Services web page:

<http://www.saiglobal.com/product-certification/>

This database provides interested parties access to a complete listing of all SAI Global Certified Products.



The Product Database provides search capabilities by Licence No, Company Name, Key Word and Country.

For further details about SAI Global Product Services or for technical advice from one of our product certification specialists please email [product@saiglobal.com](mailto:product@saiglobal.com)

