



**2018-2019**

YEAR END  
REVIEW

**DISPENSING EQUIPMENT  
ALLIANCE**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The DEA is becoming a growing voice for the chemical dispensing industry. Providing guidance on standards and codes that cover not only the United States, but Canada as well. Working with partners, DEA is able to shape how chemical dispensers are being installed. Attending meetings with plumbing and water authority inspectors is expanding the knowledge base of exactly how chemical dispensers operate safely and protect our drinking water. When there is a concern regarding language in a proposed standard, DEA works through its committees to submit language that would better suit the chemical dispensing industry. In addition, DEA asks if a proposed standard could be seen as promoting one industry over another. Advocating for the chemical dispensing industry, DEA asks hard questions and offers practical solutions. Keeping an eye on protecting water sources from contamination doesn't always require costly regulations or redundant protection. DEA has worked with model code bodies to ensure plumbing codes accept chemical dispensers certified to ASSE 1055, *Performance Requirements for Chemical Dispensing Systems with Integral Backflow Protection*. Our work continues with educating installers and inspectors on how the certified chemical dispensers protect the drinking water source.

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## **ADVOCACY/CODE:**

- Presented to the Utah Plumbing Advisory Group regarding ASSE 1055 and other changes being proposed to the Utah Plumbing Code.
- Participating with IAPMO and other industry representatives in creating a Canadian version of ASSE 1055.
- Presented a petition to the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality, which resulted from water authority inspectors asking chemical dispenser installers to have an air gap that is at least an inch. In chemical dispensers, all meet the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) definition of air gap for plumbing fixtures. The petition was to clarify this issue. The petition failed based on the Commission stating that the air gap being enforced was meant for tanks and holding containers, and not for plumbing fixtures. The Commission asked staff to work with DEA to help clarify the issue with inspectors and have the correct air gap definition enforced.
- Amendment language was presented to the Massachusetts Plumbing Board to clarify when a pressure bleed device is required.

## **EDUCATION:**

- Creating a product installation standard to guide installers and inspectors on the proper installation of chemical dispensers. The standard will help installers survey locations and then come up with a plan for a proper installation that covers plumbing codes. In addition, the standard will provide inspectors with points to verify that the installation was performed correctly.
- Once the standard is finalized, DEA will begin creating teaching opportunities for both installers and inspectors. The classes for installers will come with a certification that can be presented to inspectors to show that they have participated in a class that provides the information required to allow them to install chemical dispensers in the correct orientation and connections prescribed by plumbing code.



*The Dispensing Equipment Alliance (DEA) is established for the purpose of providing superior leadership and fostering the awareness of chemical dispensing technology and its impact on public health and safety through comprehensive educational activities, products, codes and standards, and public awareness initiatives. In addition, the DEA will serve as a clearinghouse of experience, ideas, and information to further the objectives and sustain interest on behalf of the DEA membership.*

## MEMBERSHIP:

- Added one new member during this period. SEKO joined DEA and has participated actively in promoting DEA to the industry, along with assisting in presentations to inspector groups.
- Continue to add new members by reaching out to possible new members with information about how DEA is working on behalf of the chemical dispensing industry.
- Looking to encourage new members of all levels, DEA has created membership levels that are tailored to all sizes of organizations that wish to promote dispensing equipment and work with an industry group to do just that, grow the use of chemical dispensers.
- Create a membership application that includes the newly created tiered membership levels to encourage all aspects of the chemical dispensing equipment industry to join DEA.
- Building a package of information to convince any potential new member to join based on the hard work done so far and the potential to have a real effective voice in how the industry progresses.

# 2018-2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Attended Utah Plumbing Advisory meeting to present language change from previous plumbing code amendments.
- Sent a petition to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to change the definition of Air Gap. The petition failed, but in failing it clarified that the definition being used to try to force chemical dispensers to use that definition is actually the definition of air gap for large tanks and not plumbing fixtures.
- Presented amendments to a proposed standard for the cleaning industry that included language regarding chemical dispensers.
- Participated in the Texas Drinking Water Conference and presented to a group of water authority inspectors about the benefits of ASSE 1055 and how chemical dispensers operate.
- Presentation to the American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) with the IAPMO Backflow Prevention Institute regarding ASSE 1055. The ABPA Education Conference is one of the largest backflow prevention focused conferences in the nation.

# CONCLUSION:

The chemical dispensing industry must wade through a mix of regulations to offer products that help provide needed easy-to-use cleaning and disinfecting products in a safe method to clients. Mixing those products with water is highly engineered and done to standards that protect the safety of drinking water and the public. DEA is working to assist the industry in moving through that mix – finding a pathway that makes sense and protects a very precious resource. DEA is making progress. DEA is finding that pathway by using common sense solutions and maintaining the integrity of the chemical dispensing industry.

Plumbing codes, drinking water regulations, product standards, and product certifications are all working together to protect drinking water. DEA is working to make sure that when all these regulations mesh, they do so in a way that provides a path for the chemical dispensing industry to offer products. DEA continues to stand ready to work hard to make that path open for the entire industry.

Sincerely,

DEA Executive Steering Committee



**Jeff Anderson,**  
P&G Professional



**Bill DeCristofano,**  
SEKO USA



**David Hall,**  
Diversey



**Terry Hall,**  
Hillyard Industries



**Matthew Hayas,**  
Hydro Systems



**Sherri Tischler,**  
Ecolab Inc.



**Enrique Loreto,**  
Knight/Idex Fluid



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**For membership information, visit:**  
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