



Questions & Answers
about the new
NSF Protocol P335:

Hygienic Commercial Hand Dryers





NSF International, The Public Health and Safety Company™, has recently released Protocol P335, for Hygienic Commercial Hand Dryers. Following an extensive protocol development and testing process, NSF was pleased to announce that Dyson, Ltd. was the first manufacturer to receive NSF Certification to P335 for its Dyson Airblade™ hygienic hand dryer.

Following are helpful Questions and Answers about the NSF, the new Protocol and the certification process.

Q: Who is NSF International?

A: NSF International, formerly the National Sanitation Foundation, is an independent, not-for-profit standards development and testing and certification organization. For over 60 years, NSF's mission has been to protect public health. Headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan, NSF has offices in Europe, Asia, and South America.

Q: What is an NSF Protocol? How is it useful?

A: A protocol is a document that establishes health, safety and performance objectives for innovative or new products that are not eligible for testing or certification under existing standards. Protocols are typically developed collaboratively by NSF, the product inventor, and a technical panel which may include regulators, academicians, engineers and scientists, or public health experts. Certification of a product to a protocol is voluntary, and serves as a method for product manufacturers to demonstrate that their product has been tested and certified for performance or health effectiveness.

Q: How long has NSF been doing this? Is NSF accredited?

A: NSF has developed over 50 standards and protocols, and annually tests and certifies over 225,000 products in 100 countries. NSF's standards are accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the company is accredited by the International Accreditation Service (IAS), and Standards Council of Canada (SCC), among others.



Q: What are the requirements for P335: Hygienic Commercial Hand Dryers?

A: The protocol establishes requirements for health and sanitation characteristics of hygienic commercial hand dryers while focusing on:

- **Air Filtration** - to ensure the hand dryer filters out dust and bacteria from the air being blown on to users' hands.
- **Warm Air, Not Hot** - using hot air to blow hands dry can remove beneficial oils from the skin, which can cause skin tightness or chapping. The protocol sets a maximum air temperature which is only slightly warmer than normal body temperature.
- **Dry Time** - to ensure it dries users' hands within 15 seconds, which studies have shown is the typical amount of time a person will spend drying their hands.
- **Water Disinfection** - systems that collect water shall treat the water being collected.
- **Automatic Operation** - the hand dryer must feature "hands-free" operation to reduce the opportunity of coming into contact potentially contaminated push buttons.

Other requirements in P335 relate to noise levels, burn resistance and product cleanability, plus annual facility audits to ensure the product is being manufactured to the same high quality standards year after year.

Q: Who helped develop this protocol?

A: NSF convened an expert panel of public health professionals including academicians from the University of Michigan and the University of Oklahoma, plus a public health regulator, an NSF microbiologist, and a Dyson representative.

Q: Are there other protocols developed for hygienic hand dryers?

A: No, this is the first protocol of its type for hand dryers.

Q: How do you know if a product has been certified to NSF Protocol P335?

A: Look for the NSF Mark displayed prominently on the product as well as the sales/marketing information and user guides. Also visit the Listings Page on the NSF website: www.nsf.org/info/listings.



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