

PROASYS™

Risk Management

Since its ratification in June 2015, ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015 has brought forth much discussion and confusion as to what additional responsibilities, if any, will be levied on facilities, their management, and water treatment providers. The goal of this document is to clarify ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015, facility and ProAsys' responsibilities and risk management options offered by ProAsys.

- What is ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015?
 - ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015 is a 'Standard', not a law or a regulation. It is voluntary. However, it should not be taken lightly, given that, in the event of a Legionella outbreak or death, it will be referred to as a standard of care document in future legal cases. Also, it is written in a language so it can easily be adopted into code or law. In fact, New York State has already passed laws that contain sections of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015.
- What are the highlights of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2015?
 - Building owners and managers are ultimately responsible for managing Legionella risk and liability.
 - Facilities should develop a Water Management Plan, which will use risk management principles designed to reduce the risk of Legionellosis associated with building water systems.
 - Facilities should develop a Water Management Team, which is a group responsible for development and implementation of the Water Management Plan.
 - The Standard is intended for use by facilities that have (but not limited to) cooling towers, fluid coolers, decorative fountains, spas, pools, ice machines, air washers or recirculating domestic hot water.
- Where does ProAsys fit into this?
 - Since you are a ProAsys customer, we have already designed 'best practices' into your water treatment program – According to ASHRAE, CTI, AWT, and CDC:
 - Full-Time Scale/Corrosion Inhibitor.
 - Full-Time or Daily Oxidizing Biocide to control Planktonic Bacteria.
 - As-needed Secondary Biocide to control Sessile Bacteria.
 - Minimum Monthly testing (while systems are in service), including bulk-water bacteria testing and documentation.
- Should I test for Legionella?
 - ANSI/ASHRAE 188 does not provide any recommendations for testing or frequency. Instead, it refers to ASHRAE Guideline 12-2000.
 - ASHRAE Guideline 12-2000 does not provide concrete criteria as to if and how often to test for Legionella.
 - Additionally, CTI Guideline 148 states "Most professional and government agencies that have issued Legionella position statements and guidelines do not recommend testing for Legionella bacteria on a routine basis".
 - While no professional or US government agencies recommend routine Legionella testing, ProAsys believes that routine Legionella testing of evaporative cooling equipment and other potential sources of Legionella bacteria is an important part of a proactive water management plan.



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