

*The American Society of Sanitary Engineering*



**ONE YEAR FIELD TEST PROGRAM PROCEDURES**

Revised: May, 2010

## **ASSE One Year Field Test Program**

The purpose of the ASSE One Year Field Test Program is to establish a one year field test protocol for assemblies listed to ASSE Standards 1013, 1015, 1047 or 1048.

The ASSE One Year Field Test Program shall be administered under the oversight of the ASSE Seal Control Board with the Staff Engineer serving as Chairperson.

The field test will be conducted upon successful completion, as determined by an ASSE listed laboratory, of all other relevant testing as specified in the standard.

### **Test Sites**

All test sites used during an ASSE one year field test must be low hazard. The local water purveyor or health agency shall confirm, in writing, that the location is low hazard. No more than one location may be a non-flow location. At least one device must be installed in a location with a minimum of 75% of rated flow as indicated by municipal records. The manufacturer of the assembly being tested must gain approval of the property owner, in writing, to use the testing location.

Circumstances may dictate the need to have a bypass for uninterrupted water service during testing. If this is the case at a particular location, the manufacturer shall make the arrangements with the property owner and notify ASSE during the application process.

The manufacturer must submit to ASSE an application packet for each test site. The application packet shall contain the following documentation:

- A completed ASSE Application for Field Test Site Form
- A completed ASSE Property Owner Permission Letter
- A completed ASSE Water Purveyor/Health Agency Permission Letter
- Photo of the test site where the assembly will be installed
- Map of location of test site

Upon receipt, the application will be reviewed by the Product Listing Coordinator for completeness of the required paperwork. The application packet will then be forwarded to the Staff Engineer for review and recommendation for the Seal Control Board. After completion of the Staff Engineer's review, the Product Listing Coordinator will forward the Staff Engineer's recommendation with ballot to five voting members of the ASSE Seal Control Board. The ballot period shall be seven calendar days.

A fee for review of the test site application, whether the site is approved or disapproved, will be charged to the manufacturer.

For different assemblies, all testing does not need to be conducted at the same location.

The manufacturer shall be responsible to make arrangements with the site owner at the completion of the test for disposition of the assembly.

### **Testers**

All qualified testers shall submit the Field Tester Application to ASSE along with the following documentation:

- Proof of 10 years experience testing backflow preventers
- Three letters of recommendation, written within the last year, related to backflow tester knowledge in the field or industry and on company or organization letterhead
- Documented proof of successful completion of a Backflow Tester Certification Class meeting the requirements of ASSE 5110 Standard\*

- Documented proof of successful completion of a Backflow Repairer Class meeting the requirements of ASSE 5130 Standard\*
- Resume

All qualified tester applications will be reviewed for approval or disapproval by the ASSE Tester Applicant Review Committee. After completion of review, the Product Listing Coordinator shall notify the applicant in writing of approval or disapproval.

When contracted for work, all testers will be required to sign a contract with ASSE ("Work Agreement") and a conflict of interest/confidentiality statement.

A list of approved testers shall be maintained on the ASSE website.

Manufacturer's employees, consultants or representatives cannot qualify as an approved tester.

### **Choosing a Tester**

After review and approval of the test site, the ASSE Staff Engineer shall contact tester/s in the locality of the test site to verify that the tester/s will be able to perform the one year field test on the device. Interested testers shall contact ASSE within three (3) business days. The Staff Engineer shall then choose a tester from the list of interested parties.

The manufacturer shall be informed of the Staff Engineer's choice.

### **Evaluation Forms for Testing**

The evaluation forms to be completed during the one year field test shall be according to ASSE Series 5000, current edition – Appendix C.

These forms can be downloaded from the ASSE website ([www.asse-plumbing.org](http://www.asse-plumbing.org)).

The field test shall be completed on a monthly basis (quarterly for fire service assemblies). Upon completion of the monthly (or quarterly for fire service assemblies) test, the approved tester shall submit the evaluation report forms electronically to the ASSE Staff Engineer for review and record keeping and also to the manufacturer of the assembly on a monthly basis (quarterly for fire service assemblies).

### **Completion of the One Year Field Test**

Upon completion of the one year field test, the tester shall tear down the assembly to inspect the assembly's components for any indication of abnormal wear. Upon completion, the approved tester shall forward the remaining documentation to the ASSE Staff Engineer. The Staff Engineer shall review all the evaluation reports and shall recommend to the Seal Control Board either approval or disapproval of the test results. The Staff Engineer shall forward his recommendation to the Product Listing Coordinator.

The Product Listing Coordinator shall forward, with a ballot, the Staff Engineer's recommendation and any additional documentation. The Seal Control Board will have 15 days to review and ballot the results of the one year field test and the Staff Engineer's recommendation.

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\* In addition to ASSE, many national and state programs could provide equivalent training to ASSE 5110 and 5130 requirements. Some national programs include, but are not limited to, ABPA, AWWA, IAPMO, TREEO, and USC.

Upon completion of the deadline, the Product Listing Coordinator shall notify the manufacturer of the results. If the one year field test has been approved, the Product Listing Coordinator shall issue a letter under signature of the Seal Control Board chairperson granting permission to display the ASSE One Year Field Test Seal Logo.

If the one year field test has been disapproved, the Product Listing Coordinator shall notify the manufacturer of the results and the rationale for disapproval.

A fee will apply for the review of the Staff Engineer and of the Seal Control Board.

### **Use of the One Year Field Test Certification Mark**

The American Society of Sanitary Engineering is the sole owner of the ASSE Seal and the One Year Field Test Certification Mark. The Mark is a duly registered trademark with the US Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office.

The Mark shall not be affixed to or published on any product, advertisement, literature, instruction, packaging and other printed material until written authorization to display the Mark has been received from ASSE.

The ASSE One Year Field Test Certification Mark shall be displayed on all ASSE listed products which have received the express, prior, written consent from ASSE.

### **Fees and Invoicing**

The ASSE One Year Field Test Program fees can be found on the ASSE website ([www.asse-plumbing.org](http://www.asse-plumbing.org))

Upon completion of the monthly testing, the Tester shall invoice ASSE per the fee as stated within the Work Agreement. The Tester shall clearly identify the manufacturer of the assembly and model number/s for the test/s performed on the invoice.

ASSE shall invoice the manufacturer of the assembly on a quarterly basis. The manufacturer shall be required to submit payment for the test performed, whether the assembly passed or failed.

Travel expenses incurred by the tester will be reviewed on a case by case basis and will be included on the manufacturer's invoice.

Invoices sent by ASSE shall be paid within 30 days of the date of the invoice.

## **Appendix A**

This appendix includes a list of the forms to be used during the One Year Field Test Program.

1. Field Site Test Application
2. Field Site Tester Application
3. Property Owner Permission Letter
4. Water Purveyor/Health Agency Permission Letter
5. Tester/ASSE Work Agreement
6. Evaluation Forms for field test (can be found at [www.asse-plumbing.org](http://www.asse-plumbing.org))