



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®
SOCIÉTÉ DE SAUVETAGE

The Lifeguarding Experts
Les experts en surveillance aquatique

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Safety Standards for Canadian Swimming Pools and Waterfronts Swimming Pool Standard

Entrapment and Suction Hazards Standard

Standard

Every owner and every operator shall ensure that they identify and render safe all hazards related to underwater entrapment and suction points within the swimming pool.

Definitions

Outlet: an opening in the pool tank that can generate suction (e.g., main drain or skimmers).

Equalizer: an outlet in the swimming pool used to provide an alternate source of water for the filter system linked to the skimmer basket system.

Vacuum fitting: an outlet in the pool designed to connect a swimming pool vacuuming system.

Rationale

Single-suction sources have proven to entrap bathers. These sources have been eliminated from most new construction standards.

References

- Various regulatory references from the Canadian Legal Information Institute website (www.canlii.org) which offers regulatory references for all provinces
- Virginia Graeme Baker Pool And Spa Safety Act, United States

Approval

- Approved by the Lifesaving Society Canada Board of Directors on 10 April 2012.

Disclaimer

Lifesaving Society Canada's National Safety Standards are developed using Coroners' recommendations, the latest evidence-based research, and reflect the aquatic industry's best practices at the time the publication was approved or revised.

The purpose of these standards is to encourage swimming pool, waterpark and waterfront owners, managers, operators and regulators to adopt these standards in order to prevent drownings in aquatic environments.

Lifesaving Society Canada's National Safety Standards do not replace or supersede local, provincial/territorial or federal legislation or regulations, but they are considered the standard to which aquatic facility operators should work towards in order to enhance safety within their operations and to prevent drowning and aquatic-related injury.