



## Water Efficiency Research Committee Projects - 2009

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### **Project No. 3**

**Project Name:** UNAR for Urinals

**Description:**

Stakeholders (manufacturers of urinals and water utilities) have requested that urinal fixtures be addressed with a UNAR (Uniform North American Requirements) specification similar to that of toilet fixtures, covering urinal performance, sustainability, and water savings. While WaterSense is currently developing a specification for High-Efficiency Urinals (HEUs) that would label qualified flushing urinals with volumes at or below 0.5 gallons (1.9 litres), there is no plan by WaterSense to grade and compare HEUs on the basis of their performance or other characteristics. As a result, under WaterSense, urinals flushing at 0.5 gallons (1.9 litres) would be labeled as equals with those flushing at 0.125 gallons (0.5 litres).

UNAR for urinals, however, would grade product based upon water use and other factors such that green building designers, specifiers, facilities managers and water utilities would have comparative technical information available to make educated analyses prior to purchase. Given the recent technological developments in urinal fixtures, it appears that efficiencies have been significantly improved over the 1.0-gpf products. Additional technological advances will continue to occur with urinals and a UNAR specification will help to distinguish among the resulting products.

**Type of Research:** Field and laboratory

**Expected Term to Complete the Research:** Approximately 9 months

**Estimated Cost Threshold:** Small

**Current Status:** Unfunded, work yet to commence