



## Water Efficiency Research Committee Projects - 2009

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### **Project No. 9**

**Project Name:** Plumbing Standards – U.S. and Canada

**Description:**

Plumbing standards form the basis for many plumbing code provisions. As such, standards are continually evolving as new products and technologies are developed for the marketplace. Today, new water-efficient products and technologies are rapidly being developed by the plumbing industry and many creative individuals. In many cases, these products and technologies need to be addressed through standards and permitted by plumbing codes.

National plumbing standards committees are currently addressing the following topics related to water-efficiency and water conservation programs: (1) harmonizing the plumbing standards of the U.S. and Canada to create a single standard that will ultimately result in more water-efficient products in the marketplace (underway); (2) development of showerhead performance specifications as part of ASME A112.18.1/CSA 125.1 and in support of the EPA's WaterSense Program (underway); (3) amendment of the existing ASME ANSI standards for toilets and urinals to fully recognize HETs and HEUs as a separate set of water-efficiency thresholds (underway); and (4) work toward new standards for graywater treatment systems leading to increased indoor use of treated graywater (about to commence).

**Type of Support:** Participation in the committees and organizations creating, amending, and maintaining the standards.

**Expected Term to Complete the Research:** Ongoing

**Estimated Annual Cost Threshold:** Low

**Current Status:** Funded, in part, by AWE. Ongoing funding required.