



International
Accreditation Service, Inc.

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
June 18, 2009
www.iasonline.org

Contact: Greg West
1-866-427-4422, ext. 3267
Cell (562) 201-0959

IAS Approved as an Accreditation Body for EPA's WaterSense Program

International Accreditation Service (IAS) has been designated as an approved accreditation body by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the EPA WaterSense Program.

WaterSense, similar to the EPA ENERGY STAR program for energy efficiency, promotes the development and use of water-efficient products such as faucets and high-efficiency toilets. Under the WaterSense Program, qualifying products in general must perform 20% more efficiently than traditional counterparts.

Manufacturers must demonstrate through independent testing and certification from a certifying body accredited by an EPA-recognized accreditation body that its products meet the WaterSense efficiency and performance criteria and are eligible for the WaterSense label.

IAS already has accredited two certifying bodies that have met the EPA WaterSense requirements and is currently accepting applications from organizations that want to participate in the WaterSense Program.

Pat McCullen, Vice President of IAS, said, "Through our Memorandum of Understanding with EPA, our job is to ensure that EPA-licensed independent testing and certification bodies follow the WaterSense Product Certification System."

IAS is one of the leading accreditation bodies in the United States and a signatory to several international mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs) worldwide. As an EPA

partner in the WaterSense Program, IAS will assess the competence of certification bodies to certify WaterSense labeled products against the requirements set forth in:

- International Standard ISO/IEC Guide 65, General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems,
- International Accreditation Forum – Guidance on application of ISO/IEC Guide 65, and
- U.S. EPA’s own requirements as defined in the WaterSense Product Certification System.

“We are excited and pleased to be part of this program that encourages saving water, protecting the environment and the production of efficient, high-performing and safe products,” stated McCullen.

For more information about how product certification agencies can become IAS accredited to certify and label products that meet WaterSense requirements, visit www.iasonline.org.

IAS accredits product certification agencies, testing and calibration laboratories, inspection agencies, building departments, fabricator inspection programs and IBC special inspection agencies. IAS is a nonprofit public benefit corporation that has been a recognized accreditation body since 1975.

###