

American Water Works Association
ANSI/AWWA B101-94
(First Edition)



AWWA STANDARD
FOR
PRECOAT FILTER MEDIA



All changes specified in the erratum to AWWA B101-94 are incorporated into this standard.

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AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

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Contents

All AWWA standards follow the general format indicated subsequently. Some variations from this format may be found in a particular standard.

SEC.	PAGE	SEC.	PAGE
Foreword		5	Verification
I	Introduction..... vi	5.1	Sampling 4
I.A	Background vi	5.2	Test Procedures — General 4
I.B	History..... vi	6	Delivery
I.C	Acceptance..... vi	6.1	Marking..... 8
II	Special Issues..... vii	6.2	Packaging and Shipping 8
II.A	Storage and Handling Precautions vii	6.3	Affidavit of Compliance..... 9
III	Use of This Standard viii	Appendix	
III.A	Purchaser Options and Alternatives viii	A	Bibliography 10
III.B	Modification of Standard viii	Figures	
IV	Major Revisions viii	1	Schematic of Bomb Filter Assembly 6
V	Comments viii	2	Schematic of Bomb Filter Element 7
Standard		Tables	
1	General	1	Typical Physical Properties of Precoat Media Used in Water Treatment..... 3
1.1	Scope 1	2	Typical Chemical Properties of Precoat Media Used in Water Treatment (Percent) 4
1.2	Purpose 1		
1.3	Application 1		
2	References 1		
3	Definitions 2		
4	Requirements		
4.1	Physical Requirements..... 3		
4.2	Chemical Requirements 3		
4.3	Impurities..... 3		

Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not a part of AWWA B101.

I. Introduction

I.A. *Background.* Precoat media filtration is a process in which a filter medium, typically diatomite or perlite, is applied to filters, and then run, removed, and disposed of on a cyclic basis. This process is unlike granular-media filtration, in which graduated layers of granules installed in granular-media filters are more or less permanently placed in the filters and periodically backwashed or mechanically cleaned and reused.

In precoat media filtration, a thin layer of the filter medium or precoat is applied to specially designed media-support structures, or septa, within the filter vessel or structure, by recirculating a slurry of the filtering medium through the filter. After the precoat layer is established and filtration begun, additional precoat filter-medium material is continually added as the raw water is passed through the filter. This is done to disperse the accumulation of solids from the source water on the precoat surface and throughout the media depth. The addition of filtering medium is called bodyfeeding. Using bodyfeeding reduces or eliminates premature clogging or fouling of the surface of the precoat layer. At the completion of the filtration cycle, the filter septa and the vessel are flushed. The spent filtering-medium material and the collected particulates from the source water are drained to the waste disposal facility. The clean filter is precoated again and a new filtration cycle begun.

I.B. *History.* AWWA B101-94 was approved as a new standard by the AWWA Board of Directors on June 23, 1994.

I.C. *Acceptance.* In May 1985, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) entered into a cooperative agreement with a consortium led by NSF International (NSF) to develop voluntary third-party consensus standards and a certification program for all direct and indirect drinking water additives. Other members of the original consortium included the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF) and the Conference of State Health and Environmental Managers (COSHEM). The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) joined later.

In the United States, authority to regulate products for use in, or in contact with, drinking water rests with individual states.* Local agencies may choose to impose requirements more stringent than those required by the state. To evaluate the health effects of products and drinking water additives from such products, state and local agencies may use various references, including

1. An advisory program formerly administered by USEPA, Office of Drinking Water, discontinued on Apr. 7, 1990.
2. Specific policies of the state or local agency.

*Persons in Canada, Mexico, and non-North American countries should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.