



**American Water Works
Association**

The Authoritative Resource on Safe WaterSM

ANSI/AWWA C603-05
(Revision of ANSI/AWWA C603-96 [R00])

AWWA Standard

Installation of Asbestos– Cement Pressure Pipe



Effective date: May 1, 2005.

First edition approved by AWWA Board of Directors Jan. 27, 1964.

This edition approved Jan. 16, 2005.

Approved by American National Standards Institute Feb. 25, 2005.

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Foreword

This Foreword is for information only and is not part of ANSI/AWWA C603.

I. Introduction.

I.A. *Background.* In 1931, a new pipe material consisting of an intimate mixture of portland cement and asbestos fibers was introduced into the North American market following several years of use in other countries, particularly in Italy. In the ensuing years, this type of pipe gained popularity and, in 1949, the AWWA Committee on Water Works Practice established a working committee to develop a standard for asbestos–cement pipe under the direction of Chairperson S.M. Clarke of Greeley and Hanson, Chicago.

I.B. *History.* The AWWA committee developed a standard for asbestos–cement water pipe, which was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors as tentative (AWWA C400-53T) on May 15, 1953. In 1958, the committee was reactivated as Committee 8340D on Asbestos–Cement Pipe under the direction of Chairperson Roy H. Ritter of Whitman, Requardt and Associates, Baltimore.

The committee concluded that an installation guide was needed to bring to the attention of users certain important requirements regarding the inspection, handling, installation, and field testing of asbestos–cement pressure pipe. In 1963, the committee submitted its final draft, which received approval as tentative (AWWA C603-64T) on Jan. 27, 1964. It was advanced to standard AWWA C603-65 without revision on Aug. 9, 1965.

In early 1968, the committee was reactivated as the Standards Committee on Asbestos–Cement Pressure Pipe and charged with the review and the revision of all AWWA standards on asbestos–cement pipe.

The 1978 edition of ANSI/AWWA C603 was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on Jan. 28, 1978, under the new title Standard for Installation of Asbestos–Cement Pressure Pipe. Subsequent revisions to ANSI/AWWA C603 were approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on June 17, 1990, and June 23, 1996. This edition of ANSI/AWWA C603 was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on Jan. 16, 2005.

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.
3. Two standards developed under the direction of NSF[†], NSF/ANSI[‡] 60, Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and NSF/ANSI 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects.
4. Other references, including AWWA standards, *Food Chemicals Codex*, *Water Chemicals Codex*,[§] and other standards considered appropriate by the state or local agency.

Various certification organizations may be involved in certifying products in accordance with NSF/ANSI 61. Individual states or local agencies have authority to accept or accredit certification organizations within their jurisdiction. Accreditation of certification organizations may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Annex A, “Toxicology Review and Evaluation Procedures,” to NSF/ANSI 61 does not stipulate a maximum allowable level (MAL) of a contaminant for substances not regulated by a USEPA final maximum contaminant level (MCL). The MALs of an unspecified list of “unregulated contaminants” are based on toxicity testing guidelines (noncarcinogens) and risk characterization methodology (carcinogens). Use of Annex A procedures may not always be identical, depending on the certifier.

*Persons outside the US should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.

†NSF International, 789 N. Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

‡American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036.

§Both publications available from National Academy of Sciences, 500 Fifth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001.