



## LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS FOR WATER COOLER TENDERS

*The SWCA is the official association for the Slovak water cooler industry, and a chapter of the European association (WE) and the global council of water cooler associations (ICBW).*

When you are considering to install water coolers in your company you have to select a supplier. Since water and coolers are food related and your employees will be consuming on a daily base from this facility, selecting the proper quality of products and service supply is essential. Not only does the water need to be bottled under the legal restriction with regards to product quality, labelling hygiene etc. but your equipment must be suitable for proper sanitization and meet the mandatory standards for use of cooling refrigerant and electrical safety.

The SWCA audits its members for having implemented the proper hygiene awareness and hygienic standards, following the mandatory legislative requirements and employing qualified and trained staff. If you choose a SWCA member company as your Water and Cooler supplier you are warranted to get the proper products and services. Members can be found on the member-listing on the website SWCA.sk. If you decide to choose a non-member, make sure they meet the necessary requirements. We attach a checklist for your convenience. You can use this checklist to complete your tender requirements.

To ensure your Bottled Water and Cooler Supplier acts according to Slovak and European standards and codes of practice please use the following checklist



# SWCA QUALITY CHECKLIST

To ensure your Bottled Water and Cooler Supplier acts according to Slovak and European standards and codes of practice please use the following checklist.

## COOLERS

### Refrigeration System

Must be non-HFC based refrigerants. 2006/842/EC and 1005/2009/EC refer

### Electrical Safety, Electromagnetic Compatibility and use of hazardous materials

All coolers and related electrical equipment (steamers, ozonators etc) must meet the requirements of the following EC Directives:

- EMC 2004/108/EC (Electromagnetic Compatibility)
- LVD 2006/95/EC (Electrical Safety)
- 2002/95/EC 2005/618/EC and 2008/35/EC (Use of Hazardous Materials) (new RoHS Directive)

Coolers must carry the CE mark with supporting documentation made available by the supplier on request. The CE Marking on its own is insufficient.

### Materials in Contact with Water

These should comply with European or equivalent standards for materials in contact with food. Such standards include:

- 2002/72/EC
- 2009/1978/EC
- NSF or similar certification
- Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 of 14 January on plastic materials and articles intended to come in contact with food

Certification of compliance from cooler manufacturer must be available.

**Sanitation procedure used must be proved to be effective by the methods of WE / EBWA test protocols**

## BOTTLES

Reusable bottles are usually made of polycarbonate. Only food grade materials that conform to EC Directive 2005/79/EC or an accepted alternative should be used. It should also comply with the regulation for bis-phenol A.

Certification of compliance from bottle manufacturer must be available

## LABELLING

Bottles should be labeled in accordance with all relevant European and National Legislation. e.g. EU Directive 80/777 amended by 96/70 on the exploitation of Natural Mineral and Spring Waters, EU Directive 98/83 for other bottled waters and national legislation on food labeling.

Label must present at least:

- Name, location and origin of source
- Analytic composition giving the characteristic constituents and testing laboratory name
- Best before date and storage info.

Label with relevant information must be present

## CAPS

Cap materials should meet the relevant legislation standards for food or water contact e.g. EC Directive 2005/79, FDA Code CRF-21 and related EU regulations or Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 of 14 January on plastic materials and articles intended to come in contact with food.

Certification of compliance from cap manufacturer must be available.

## CUPS

These should meet the relevant legislation standards for food-grade materials e.g. EC Directive 2005/79, NSF standard F-18, FDA Code CRF-21 and related EU regulations or Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 of 14 January on plastic materials and articles intended to come in contact with food.

Certificate of compliance from an accredited laboratory must be available upon request

## WATER

Bottled water is regulated by the EU Directives 2009/54 and 2003/40 or 98/83 in general as well as by some local/national regulations to be considered as appropriate. Water is subject to compositional requirements and the microbiological and chemical standards of EU Directive 80/778 and its successor 98/83

Microbiological analysis from a certified laboratory, no older than 3 months, must be available and confirming composition within limits of the standards.

Analytic composition analysis from a certified laboratory, no older than 12 months, must be available and confirming composition within limits of the standards.

**OR** (instead of all above checks you can require membership accreditation certificate which insures all the above is audited and approved.

Approved accredited membership certificate of the SWCA (Slovak Water Cooler Association)

## BOTTLING

### Health Effects

It is very important the equipment, chemicals and filter materials used to treat water have no harmful health effects. Materials in contact with water should comply with European or equivalent standards (food grade quality). These include:  
- 2005/79/EC  
- FDA code CRF21 and related EU regulations

### Electrical and Electromagnetic Safety

Electrically operated equipment should be electrically safe and comply with local health and safety requirements and the following EU Directives:  
- 89/336/EC (EMC)  
- 73/23/EC and 93/68 EC.(LVD)

Newly acquired equipment should carry CE marking and have supporting documentation.

### Use of Hazardous Materials

Please note that materials used must now conform to the requirements of the new RoHS Directives 2002/95/EC and 2005/618/EC

Water bottled in a WE (European Bottled Water Association) audited and approved Bottling plant ensures it meets all proper legislative directives, standards and recommended quality codes of practice.