

Technical Bulletin #2018-08-08

California's Proposition 65

This technical bulletin is to make our customers aware of California's Proposition 65. California's Proposition 65 (Also known as the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986) is a California law that requires businesses to warn consumers if a product exposes the consumer to any chemicals that the state has listed as known to cause cancer or reproductive harm.

About 900 chemicals appear on the State's Proposition 65 list. This list includes lead, methanol, and carbon black. The State has generated Safe Harbor Levels for many of the chemicals on this list, which are exposure levels below which the state of California has deemed do not require a warning. However, many of these levels are much lower than corresponding industry standards.

While Ward Manufacturing products comply with federal standards, Proposition 65 can apply more stringent warning triggers. Even when a product meets a federal standard, that product still may need a Proposition 65 warning.

Ward Unions and Lead Warnings

Our union product line is made to meet Public Law 111-380, which states that all fittings with less than a 0.25% lead concentration of wetted surface area meet the "Lead Free" definition. However, brass-seated unions have a ring with a small concentration of lead that results in uncertainty with respect to evaluating potential exposures as compared to the Proposition 65 Safe Harbor Level. Thus, while our unions are "Lead Free," they also carry a label to warn about lead exposure.

WARDFlex Brass Fittings

WARDFlex fittings are made with either CW612, 33700, CW603N brass. CW603N is regulated by standards such as EN 12164. EN 12164 limits the amount of lead in CW603N to no more than 3.5%. The other brass mixtures contain less than 2.5% lead concentration.

WARDFlex MAX

According to our polyethylene provider, our WARDFlex MAX coating contains both carbon black and methanol. Our supplier informs us that they do not have information on exposure levels from the coating. As a result, Ward has decided to apply the Proposition 65 warning labels.

Frequently Asked Questions

I do not live in California. Why am I seeing this label?

In order to avoid unlabeled boxes reaching California, Ward has decided to label each box with products that contain Proposition 65 chemicals. This includes products not sold in California.

Where can I find more information on Proposition 65?

Visit the OEHHA website <https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65> or www.P65Warnings.com to find more information on Proposition 65.