

Swimming Pool and Spa Suction Fittings

Q: I understand there are new federal requirements for suction fittings used in swimming pools and spas. Does UL List fittings that comply with these requirements, and if so how are these fittings identified?

A: The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act specifies that on or after December 19, 2008, swimming pool and spa drain covers available for purchase in the United States must meet specific performance requirements. Additionally, public swimming pools, wading pools, spas and hot tubs must meet requirements for installation of compliant drain covers. Among other things the Act requires drain covers to comply with requirements in the Standard for Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs, ANSI/ASME A112.19.8-2007.

UL has investigated and Listed a number of suction fittings that comply with the new ASME A112.19.8-2007 requirements. The Listing Mark for these products includes the UL symbol, the word "LISTED," a control number, and:

- "Swimming Pool Suction Fitting" (or "Sw Pool Sctn Ftn"), or
- "Suction Fitting" and either "ASME A112.19.8-2007" or "ASME A112.19.8-07".

You may also see the marking "VGB 2008" on suction fittings. This is a new marking recommended by the United States

Consumer Product Safety Commission to identify the fittings evaluated to the 2007 Edition of ASME A112.19.8. The "VGB 2008" marking is not currently required by UL.

UL previously investigated suction fittings to earlier editions of the ASME standard that do not comply with the requirements included in the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act. The Listing Mark for those fittings included the UL symbol, the word "LISTED," a control number, and "Suction Fitting", with no reference to the edition of the standard, a subtle distinction.

