

VIRGINIA GRAEME BAKER POOL & SPA SAFETY ACT



CPSC STAFF'S GUIDE TO COMPLYING WITH THE LAW



By December 19, 2008, ALL public pool owners/operators must:

- Install drain covers that meet the ANSI/ASME A112.19.8–2007 standard on EVERY drain/grate. A list of cover manufacturers can be found at www.cpsc.gov/whatsnew.html#pool
- Install an automatic shut-off system, gravity drainage system, Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS), suction-limiting vent system or disable the drain, if the pool operates off of a SINGLE main drain. Pools and spas with unblockable drains are exempt from this requirement. A list of SVRS manufacturers can be found at www.cpsc.gov/whatsnew.html#pool.
- Ensure that dual or multiple main drains are at least 3 feet apart.

Pools And Spas Not Open On December 19, 2008 Are Not Required To Be In Compliance Until The Day The Pool Or Spa Is Re-opened!

The new Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act requires all new drain and grate covers be certified to all applicable standards starting on November 12, 2008.

CPSC staff recommends that to ELIMINATE and not just MITIGATE the drain entrapment hazard in pools and spas, pool owners should disable old drains or build new pools without any drains and use gutters, overflows and/or skimmers to provide water to the pump.

Have a question or concern about the Pool & Spa Safety Act?

Send an e-mail to info@cpsc.gov

This information was prepared by the CPSC staff; it has not been approved by, and does not necessarily represent the views of, the Commission.



What does the VGB Act mandate?

The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGB Act) was signed into federal law on December 19, 2007, with the support of the Association of Pool & Spa Professionals (APSP). **Please visit www.APSP.org/VGB for the latest information.**

Public pools and spas that are not in compliance by December 19, 2008, may not open for use until compliant.

The VGB Act contains three federally enforced mandates—each effective December 19, 2008:

1. All drain covers (public and residential) manufactured, imported, distributed, or offered into commerce must comply with the new ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 2007 standard.
Proof of compliance requires testing and certification by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory, except for “Field Fabricated Outlets” defined under Section 2.3.1 of the ASME standard. These specialized suction outlets may qualify for site-specific certification by a Registered Design Professional, as defined in Section 1.5 of the ASME standard.
2. All public pools and spas (new and existing) must be retrofitted with covers that meet the new ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 2007 standard, or qualified Field Fabricated Outlets may be certified by a Registered Design Professional, as stipulated in the ASME standard.
3. All public pools and spas that have a single drain other than an unblockable drain must employ one or more additional options.

This compliance guide does not address every public pool and spa configuration. For more thorough compliance guidance, including how to determine and address maximum system flow rates, follow the ANSI/APSP-7 Suction Entrapment Avoidance Standard.

For additional information, be sure to read the following. You can also consult an APSP member using the member locator at www.APSP.org.

- ANSI/APSP-7 Suction Entrapment Avoidance Standard. This standard meets or exceeds all the requirements of the VGB Act. To order, visit the APSP Store at www.APSP.org.
- ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 2007. To order, go to www.amse.org.
- APSP list of “Frequently Asked Questions” at www.APSP.org/VGB_FAQs.



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www.APSP.org

Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act



APSP COMPLIANCE GUIDE

For public pool and spa owners
and operators, builders, and
service professionals



HOW do I know if my public pool and spa complies with the VGB Act?

Public pools and spas built before December 19, 2007, are not compliant unless they were built without submerged suction outlets, or the suction system has since been modified to comply. To help determine compliance, use the following steps:



Determine if your drain covers comply with the VGB Act, Section 1404(c)(1)(A)(i), by answering the following:

- 1 Are the cover(s) marked with “VGB 2008,” “ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 2007,” or the swimmer logo*? Or have qualified Field Fabricated Outlets been certified by a Registered Design Professional? Yes No
- 2 For single and dual outlet systems, is the flow rating for each cover equal to or greater than the Maximum System GPM? Or for systems with three or more covers per pump—assume one is completely blocked off and then ask—is the combined flow rating of all unblocked covers equal to or greater than the Maximum System GPM? Yes No
- 3 Is the cover properly secured, according to the manufacturer’s instructions, to a manufactured sump or field-built sump design, and is the cover tested and certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL)? Yes No



If the answer to any of these questions is “No,” the pool does not comply.

Corrective Action:

- If the cover(s) are not qualified Field Fabricated Outlet(s), go to www.APSP.org/CoversandSVRS.org for a list of APSP-member manufacturers that offer compliant covers, or visit www.cpsc.gov. Ask the manufacturer if their covers include a flow rating greater than the Maximum System GPM and are certified by an NRTL for use on the existing sump.
- If the cover(s) are qualified Field Fabricated Outlet(s), you must consult a Registered Design Professional for certification. Qualified Field Fabricated Outlets are large enough that the 18 x 23-inch body blocking element will not cause differential pressure that could cause body entrapment, as defined by the procedures of the ASME standard. The Registered Design Professional will be responsible for certifying all requirements of the ASME standard, including but not limited to flow rating, cover strength, and sump design.



Determine if your back-up options comply with the VGB Act, Section 1404(c)(1)(A)(ii), by answering the following:

- 1 If the pool has a multiple main-drain system (i.e., more than one suction outlet per pump), is the center-to-center distance between the two covers at least 36 inches? Yes No

If “Yes,” then no further corrective action is required.

If “No,” this is considered a single-drain system for purposes of complying with the VGB Act (see “Corrective Action” below for single-drain systems).

- 2 If the pool has a single-suction outlet, is it unblockable? Determine by answering the following:
 - A. Does the sump exceed 18 x 23 inches?
 Yes No
 - B. Does the sump have an open-area diagonal that exceeds 29 inches?
 Yes No

If the answers to 2(A) and 2(B) are “Yes,” then no further corrective action is required.

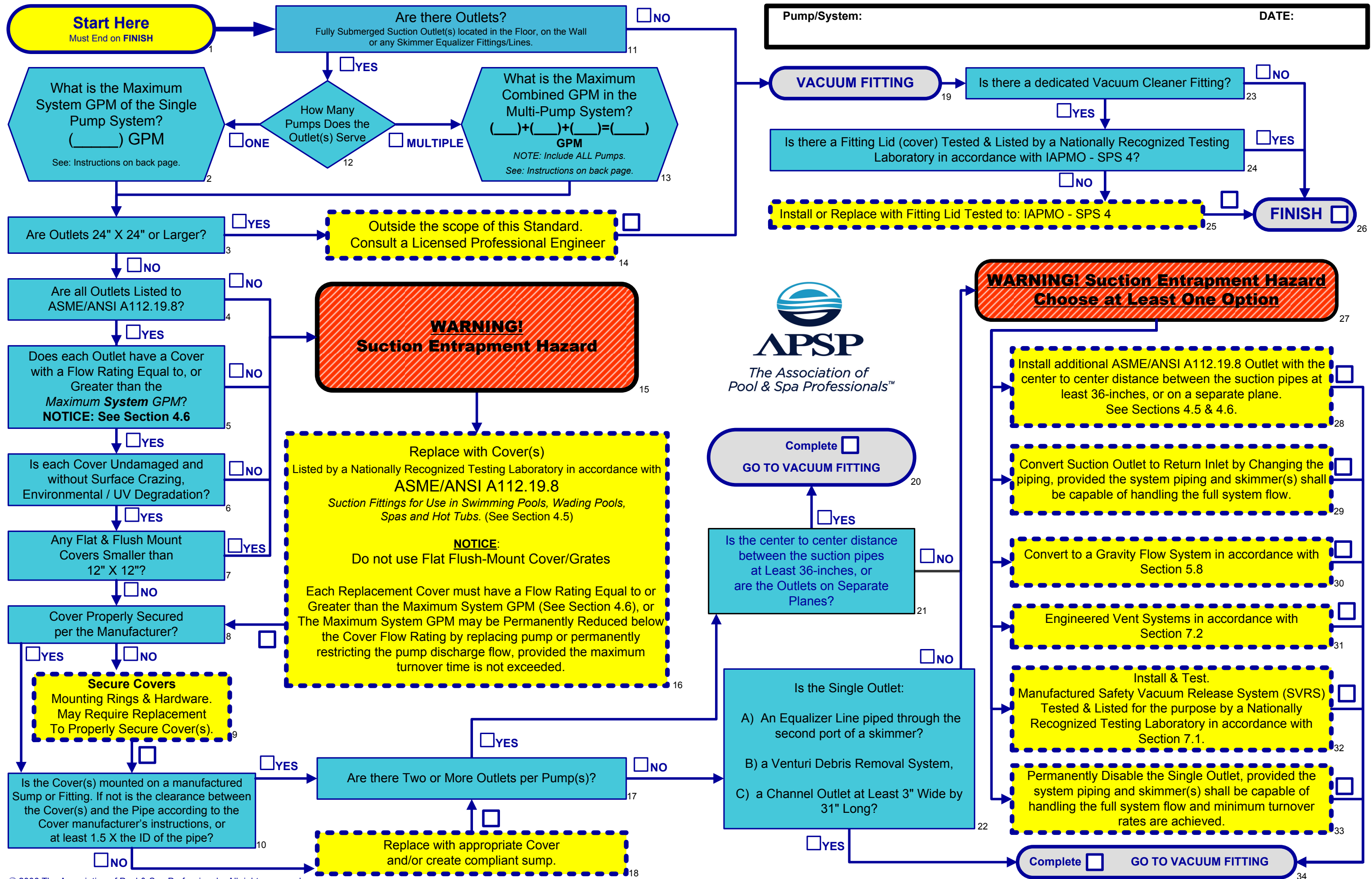
If the answer to 2(A) OR 2(B) is “No,” this is considered a single-drain system for purposes of complying with the VGB Act (see “Corrective Action” below for single-drain systems).

Corrective Action: To get single-drain systems to comply, you must use one of the following options:

- A. Consider drain disablement or reversal of the flow.
- B. Install additional properly spaced outlet(s) with compliant cover(s).
- C. Install safety vacuum release system(s) (SVRS)*.
- D. Install a gravity drainage system.
- E. Install a suction-limiting vent system.
- F. Install an automatic pump shut-off system*.

*For a list of APSP member companies that manufacture SVRS products or automatic pump shut-off systems, go to www.APSP.org/CoversandSVRS.org.

Visit www.APSP.org/VGB for the latest information.



Manufacturers of ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 Approved Drain Covers

The following companies, listed alphabetically, manufacture pool and spa drain covers of various sizes and have represented to CPSC staff that their covers meet the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 standard, as required by the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, Section 1404(c)(1)(A)(i).

The staff is providing this information as a convenience to pool owners and operators. The CPSC does not provide approval or endorsements for any of these companies or their products. Other companies not listed may also manufacture products that meet the requirements of the law.

Last updated 12/19/2008

A&A Manufacturing

Division of Shasta Industries Inc.
3750 West Indian School Road
Phoenix, AZ 85019
Tel (800) 851-8492
Fax (602) 5324896
Michael Marshall
Michael.Marshall@aamfg.com
www.UnblockableDrain.com
Dimensions: 3 1/2" x 31" channel drain

Afras Industries Inc.

766 Hampshire Road, Unit A
Westlake Village, CA 91361
Reza Afshar
Tel: (805) 230-0011
Fax: (805) 230-0062
www.afrasinc.com

AquaStar Pool Products Inc.

1666 Garnet Ave #224
San Diego, CA 92109
Wade Arens
Tel (877) 768-2717 ext 2
Fax (877) 276-POOL
wade@aquastarpoolproducts.com
www.aquastarpoolproducts.com
Dimensions: 8" round, 10" round,
9"x9" square, 12"x12" square,
18"x18" square, 24"x24" square, 32"x
3 1/2" channel drain

BALBOA Water Group

1382 Bell Ave
Tustin, CA 92780
Bob Spillar
Tel: (714) 955.6240
Fax: (714) 384.0335

Bob.Spillar@BalboaWater.com
www.BalboaWater.com

Commercial Pool & Spa Supplies Inc.

1167 East Hwy 36
Maplewood, MN 55109
Bill Soukup
Tel (877) 842-4455
Fax (651) 765-9924
billsoukup@commercialpool.com
www.commercialpoolseminars.com
Dimensions: 28" x 30" (outside dimensions)

Current Systems Inc.

Peter Davidson
Riverflow Pumps
621 Via Alondra Ste. 607
Camarillo, CA 93012
805-482-1091 Phone
805-482-1041 Fax
pdavidson@current-systems.com
www.current-systems.com
Dimensions: Grate sizes: 18" x 23";
18" x 42"; 24" x 24"

Drain Safe/New Water Solutions

Ron Schroader
Lake Worth, FL
Tel (561) 433-2580
Ron@drainsafe.com
www.drainsafe.com
Dimensions: 11" diameter cover, will fit 5 1/2" - 8" Diameter Sumps, and retrofit smaller 5" sumps with additional knockouts

Eureka Manufacturing Co.

PO Box 1473

Bismarck, ND 58502
Cathryn Binstock
Tel (701) 223-7932
Fax (701) 258-5423
cathryn@eurekamanufacturing.com
www.eurekamanufacturing.com

Hayward Pool Products

61 White Cap Drive
North Kingstown, RI 02852
Joe DiOrio, Product Manager
Tel (401) 583-1107
Fax (401) 583-1407
jdiorio@haywardnet.com
www.haywardnet.com/safety1
Dimensions: 8" Round, 9"x9" Square,
12"x12" Square, 18"x18" Square

Paddock Industries Inc.

555 Paddock Parkway
Rock Hill, SC 29730
Mike Schuett, Executive Vice President
Tel (800) 849-2729
www.paddockindustries.com
Dimensions: 20"x20" and 24"x24",
can be installed in multiples

Paramount Pool and Spa Systems

295 E. Corporate Place, Ste. 100
Chandler, AZ 85225
Dominic Conn, Director of Engineering
Tel (480) 893-7607
DCONN@1paramount.com
www.1paramount.com
Dimensions: Will fit drains up to 10" diameter

San Antonio Gary Equipment Company Inc.

438 Sandau Road
San Antonio, TX 78216-3621
Tassie Zars
Tel 210.341.5255
Fax 210.341.5154
www.GaryEquipment.com
retro@garypools.com

Triodyne Safety Systems LLC.

3054 N. Lake Terrace
Glenview, Illinois 60025
Tel (847) 486-9640
Fax (847) 486-9645
Pete Warner
petew@triodyne.com
www.antihairsnare.com
Dimensions: 8" round drain cover

Waterway Plastics

2200 E. Sturgis Rd.
Oxnard, CA. 93030
Ray Mirzaei, Certified Engineer
Tel (805) 981-0262
waterway@waterwayplastics.com
www.waterwayplastics.com
Dimensions: 8" and 10" covers, and
9"x9" and 12"x12" grates

World Wide Sports LLC

112 South Hanley Road
Suite 101
St. Louis, MO 63015-3418
Harry Newhart
Tel (314) 863-0040
www.worldwidesportsllc.com
Dimensions: 13" diameter cover, fits
5" to 10" round

Manufacturers of ASME/ANSI A112.19.17 or ASTM F2387 Approved Safety Vacuum Release Systems

The following companies, listed alphabetically, manufacture safety vacuum release systems and have represented to CPSC staff that their systems meet the ASME/ANSI A112.19.17 or ASTM F2387 standards, as required by the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, Section 1404(c)(1)(A)(I).

The staff is providing this information as a convenience to pool owners and operators. The CPSC does not provide approval or endorsements for any of these companies or their products. Other companies not listed may also manufacture products that meet the requirements of the law.

Last updated 12/08/2008

A.O. Smith EPC

531 North Fourth Street
Tipp City, OH 45371
www.aosepc.com/Products/eMod/
[Note: eMod model also qualifies
as an automatic pump shut off
system.]
Midwest and Northeast
Greg Fritz
Tel (937) 609.6342

Florida / Southeast
John Alexander
Tel (813) 335.0879

West
Bill DeCorrevont
Tel (602) 300.4664

Emotron Inc.

1005 N. Holland Sylvania Rd.
Toledo, OH 43615
Paul Hackett
Tel 419-842-2233
Fax 419-866-1506
paul.hackett@usa-emotron.com
www.usa-emotron.com

Hayward Pool Products

61 White Cap Drive
North Kingstown, RI 02852
Joe DiOrio, Product Manager
Tel (401) 583-1107
Fax (401)583-1407
jdiorio@haywardnet.com
www.haywardnet.com/safety1

Pentair Water Pool and Spa

1620 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford, NC 27330
Customer Service: (800) 831-7133
Customer Service Fax: (919) 566-8926
Technical Service: (800) 831-7133
Steve Barnes
Steve.Barnes@PentairWater.com
www.PentairPool.com

Stingl Products LLC

Sterling, VA
Tony Sirianni
Tel (888) 749.5433
Tel (571) 434-6010
Fax (571) 434.6013

tonysirianni@stinglproducts.com
www.stinglproducts.com

Vac-Alert™ Industries LLC

Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Paul Pennington
Tel (800) 374-7405
Fax (707) 576-8286
www.vac-alert.com

Vacless™ Systems Inc. Pool and Spa Safety Products

Simi Valley, CA 93063
John Steffen
Tel (877) 822-5377
Tel (818) 899-1700
Fax (818) 899-1744
john@vacless.com
www.vacless.com