



# American Society of Sanitary Engineering

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ASSE Releases Scald Awareness Brochure and “Tommy Temperature”

**Westlake, Ohio, October 12, 2012** — The American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) has developed two free-of-charge items, a tri-fold brochure and a fun bath/shower water temperature indicator, to highlight safety information concerning potential water heater scald hazards and to help reduce the risk of scald burns at bath time.

The first of the two items is a tri-fold brochure, which covers the important safety information contained within the ASSE Scald Awareness Task Group’s latest White Paper, “Understanding Potential Water Heater Scald Hazards.” One of the main objectives of the brochure is to examine misconceptions about the proper way to control hot water temperatures at the point of use (faucets, shower valves, bathtubs). This tri-fold includes examples of how potential scald hazards can occur, solutions to these hazards and health related concerns involving the presence of legionella pneumophillia bacteria in warm, nutrient-rich, domestic hot water systems.

In keeping with ASSE’s motto, “Prevention Rather Than Cure,” a bath/shower water temperature indicator, featuring a friendly cartoon turtle named “Tommy Temperature,” has also been developed to help parents and children minimize the risk of scalding at bath time. When holding Tommy’s feet in bath water or a shower stream, an LCD temperature indicator will show the parent or child if the water temperature is safe, indicated by the word “OK”, or potentially dangerous, indicated by the word “HOT.” While there is no substitute for a parent or caregiver being attentive during a child’s bath, Tommy Temperature can assist in making bath time a safe and fun experience.

The American Society of Sanitary Engineering strongly encourages all industry professionals, industry associations, members of the media and those with an interest in protecting public safety to help spread the word about these great tools for preventing scald injuries. Parent-teacher groups, schools, hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living centers could all put these items to great use.

Both the “Understanding Potential Water Heater Scald Hazards” brochure and “Tommy Temperature” bath/shower water temperature indicator are readily available, free of charge, from the American Society of Sanitary Engineering’s International Office. You may request these items by calling (440) 835-3040, or by sending an e-mail to [general.info@asse-plumbing.org](mailto:general.info@asse-plumbing.org).

For further information, contact Richard J. Prospal, ASSE Scald Awareness Task Group Chairman, via e-mail at: [RJProspal@asse-plumbing.org](mailto:RJProspal@asse-plumbing.org).

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### **About the American Society of Sanitary Engineering**

ASSE is an ANSI Accredited standards developer and product certification body that is comprised of individual and sustaining members who represent all disciplines of the plumbing and mechanical industries. Its mission is to continually improve the performance, reliability and safety of plumbing and mechanical systems. ASSE’s product performance standards, professional qualifications standards, professional certification and product listing programs are developed in the interest of public health and the society’s motto, “Prevention Rather Than Cure.” For more information, visit <http://www.asse-plumbing.org>