When making choices of plumbing product, what should the public note about?

When making choices of plumbing product, the public could choose plumbing products approved by the General Acceptance (GA) system of the Water Supplies Department (WSD) as the samples of these products have been tested to prove conformity to the statutory standards which could ensure drinking water safety.

To help the public identify GA plumbing products, the WSD has launched a voluntary labeling scheme for GA products. Under the scheme, suppliers are required to affix a label on GA product package or display counter of GA product at shops for identification by the public.

The public can also scan the QR code on the label by a smartphone for retrieval of useful information about the product such as its country of origin and GA expiry date.

At present, the WSD has a GA system in place to pre-approve plumbing products used in plumbing projects. To obtain a GA status, a supplier should submit either test result of a sample of the product or a certificate issued by certification body to prove conformity of the product to the statutory standards. If the submission is accepted, the WSD will include the product in its pre-approved list. Builders can use the product in plumbing projects before the GA expiry date of that product (the duration of validity is normally five years).


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