



*For Immediate Release*

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## **First Sustainability Standard for Household Refrigeration Appliances Developed to Identify Environmentally Responsible Products**

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**WASHINGTON, DC (June 7, 2012)** – The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), CSA Group, and UL Environment today announced the release of AHAM 7001-2012/CSA SPE-7001-12/UL 7001, *Sustainability Standard for Household Refrigeration Appliances*, the first voluntary sustainability standard for home appliances. This new standard is the first in a family of product sustainability standards under development by AHAM, CSA Group, and UL Environment intended for use by manufacturers, governments, retailers, and others to identify environmentally preferable products. The standard is based on a lifecycle approach for identifying the environmental impacts of refrigeration products in five key areas: energy, materials, end-of-life, performance, and manufacturing.

This standard will serve as an objective and practical measurement tool to assist refrigeration manufacturers in evaluating the environmental sustainability of home appliances. The three organizations next will form consensus committees to move the standard through the U.S. and Canadian accredited standards process, following the requirements of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), respectively.

“The AHAM-CSA-UL collaboration represents vast experience in appliance design, manufacture and use, standards development and product lifecycle analysis. Coupled with the critical stakeholder input, we believe this standard and others that will follow represent a strong commitment to sustainability and provide workable tools for appliance purchasers to compare the environmental attributes of appliances,” explained Joseph M. McGuire, president of AHAM.

“CSA Group is committed to developing standards for evaluating and communicating environmental information for products and services that help advance environmental

performance and consumer knowledge,” said Bonnie Rose, president, Standards, CSA Group. “Working together on the task force for sustainability of household refrigeration appliances, we have jointly developed the first of many new product standards that look at the environmental impact of products across their full life cycle.”

“The notion of product safety as we know it is evolving and expanding. Increasingly, consumers are concerned about the lifecycle-based environmental impacts of the products they buy and use in their homes. Appliances are no exception,” said Sara Greenstein, president of UL Environment, a business unit of UL. “We applaud the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers for taking a leadership role and working together to develop this important sustainability standard. We are confident that it will help pave the way for greener, more sustainable home appliances to enter the marketplace and meet the needs of environmentally conscious consumers.”

Throughout the standards development process, a cross-section of stakeholders, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Environment Canada, The Sustainability Consortium, Consumer’s Union, and retailers such as Sears, Best Buy, and Lowe’s, and environmental groups including the Carbon Disclosure Project were engaged to ensure that the standard is credible and compatible with existing government and retailer initiatives. PE INTERNATIONAL and Five Winds Strategic Consulting served as a project manager for this project.

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### **About AHAM**

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) is a not-for-profit trade association representing manufacturers of major, portable and floor care home appliances, and suppliers to the industry and is headquartered in Washington, DC. AHAM is a standards development organization, accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and has authored numerous appliance performance testing standards used by manufacturers, consumer organizations and governmental bodies to rate and compare appliances. You can visit the AHAM web site at [www.aham.org](http://www.aham.org)

### **About CSA Standards**

CSA Standards is a leading standards-based solutions organization serving industry, government, consumers and other interested parties in North America and the global marketplace. Focusing on standards and codes development, application products, training, advisory and personnel certification services, the organization aims to enhance public safety, improve quality of life, preserve the environment and facilitate trade. CSA Standards is a division of CSA Group, also consisting of CSA International, which provides testing and certification services for electrical, mechanical, plumbing, gas and a variety of other products; and OnSpeX, a provider of consumer product evaluation, inspection and advisory services for retailers and manufacturers. For more information, visit [www.csa.ca](http://www.csa.ca)

**About UL Environment**

UL Environment, a business unit of UL, works to advance global sustainability, environmental health, and safety by supporting the growth and development of environmentally preferable products, services, and organizations. We help companies achieve their sustainability goals—and help purchasers, specifiers, retailers, governments, and consumers find products they can trust. UL Environment offers environmental claim validations, multi-attribute product certifications, environmental product declarations, indoor air quality certification, product emissions testing, organizational sustainability certification, and consulting. For more information, visit [www.ul.com/environment](http://www.ul.com/environment).