



# News alert

## Plan now for new CPSC public pool/spa drain requirements

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is revoking its interpretation of the term “unblockable drain” as used in the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGB Act). This means that a blockable drain cannot be made “unblockable” by use of a cover alone. Now public pools and spas must be equipped with a secondary anti-entrapment system. The CPSC is currently considering a compliance deadline of May 28, 2012.

The VGB Act requires that pools and spas with a single main drain, other than an unblockable drain (drains greater than 18” x 23”), be equipped with one or more of the following: safety vacuum release system, suction-limiting vent system, gravity drainage system, automatic pump shut-off system, drain disablement, and/or any other system determined by the Commission to be equally effective as, or better than, the enumerated systems at preventing or eliminating the risk of injury or death associated with pool drainage systems.

### Learn more

- Visit the [CPSC website](#) or contact your local authority governing pool and spa certifications.
- Read the CPSC’s [Interpretation of Unblockable Drain](#).
- Download [frequently asked questions](#) from the Association of Pool & Spa Professionals (APSP).

### Contact us

If you have a safety or risk management question, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at [safety1st@markelcorp.com](mailto:safety1st@markelcorp.com). For more safety information, go to our [online library of risk management articles](#).