

**4MS Initiative**

In 2011, the four EU member states Germany, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have agreed to harmonise the tests for the hygienic suitability of products in contact with drinking water. These 4MS collaboration efforts have evolved successfully and now are termed «4MS Initiative» in view of extension perspectives. In 2018, Denmark also became a full member of this initiative.

The 4MS countries have decided to implement common, or directly comparable, practices (4MS Common Approach) for various aspects. One of these is the «Acceptance of the constituents used in materials in contact with drinking water». This resulted, among others, in the 4MS positive list for metallic materials (4MS Common Composition List).

**4MS Positive list**

The positive list for metallic materials specifies which alloys are suitable from a hygienic point of view for certain product groups for contact with drinking water and are therefore approved for use. The positive list does not make any statements about mechanical or physical suitability. Some 4MS countries have adopted the positive list into their national jurisdiction. In Germany, for example, the «Evaluation criteria for metallic materials in contact with drinking water» of the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) is part of the Drinking Water Ordinance (TrinkwV). In Austria and Switzerland, the associations of the gas and water industry (ÖVGW and SVGW) recognise the 4MS positive list with regard to the hygienic suitability for drinking water.

**SERTO Tube unions made of brass**

The two assortments brass M and brass G of the SERTO tube union range consist of two different alloys: union parts consist of the alloy CW 617N (CuZn40Pb2) with a maximum of 2.2 % lead and stiffener sleeves of the alloy CW 508L (CuZn37) with a maximum of 0.1 % lead.

**Confirmation**

SERTO AG hereby confirms that the alloys CW 617N and CW 508L used in the SERTO union ranges brass M and brass G are listed in the 4MS positive list as approved materials for the product groups fittings and tube unions as well as for components contained therein. For details on the product groups, explicit reference is made to the 4MS Common Composition List or the UBA Evaluation Criteria. Chemically nickel-plated brass fittings are not suitable for contact with drinking water.

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