



Reference Document: 2009 FDA Food Code

Provision(s): Paragraph 5-202.12 (C)

Document Name: Motion Sensor Activated Faucets v03

Date: May 1, 2010, Editorial Change June 3, 2013, Editorial Change March 6, 2014

Question: Does Food Code paragraph 5-202.12 (C) apply to water-conserving motion sensor activated faucets if re-activation is by movement of the hands under the faucet without physical contact with the fixture?

Response:

Paragraph 5-202.12 (C) of the Food Code states that self-closing, slow-closing, or metering faucets at a handwashing sink shall provide a flow of water for at least 15 seconds without the need to reactivate the faucet. This paragraph (5-202.12 (C)) does not address the use of motion-activated handwashing faucets that can provide a flow of water for the required time period without restriction of handwashing during reactivation of the faucet. There does not, however, appear to be a conflict in achieving a proper handwashing per Section 2-301.12 with the use of water conserving motion-sensor activated handwashing faucets, as there would not be a restricted water flow or restricted use of the hands with the reactivation of the sensors.

References:

1. 2009 Food Code, 2-301.12 Cleaning Procedure, 2-301.14 When to Wash, 2-301.15 Where to Wash, 5-202.12 (C) Handwashing Sink, Installation, and Annex 3, Section 2-301.12.