



AMERICAN BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

## **Position Statement Concerning DENTAL WATERLINE PROTECTION**

In pursuit of the stated goals of the American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) of protecting the quality and integrity of clean drinking water, the Board of Directors believes that a Position Statement regarding “Dental Waterline Protection” is essential.

To prevent contamination from entering the public potable water system, all actual or potential cross-connections must be either eliminated or protected. A cross-connection is defined as an actual or potential connection between a potable water supply and any other non-potable liquid, gas or substance.

It is the position of the ABPA that unprotected cross-connections may be present in dental offices. Therefore, in order to ensure clean drinking water, it is the position of the ABPA that all actual or potential cross-connections either be eliminated or protected with the appropriate means of protection commensurate with the degree of hazard, and as required by the authority having jurisdiction.

*Approved by the ABPA Board of Directors: April 29, 1998 – Tempe, Arizona  
Reapproved: May 19, 2010 – New Orleans, Louisiana  
Reapproved: May 16, 2015 – Nashville, Tennessee*