APPLIANCE ADVISOR™

2016 • ISSUE 1

FEATURED ARTICLE

US TAG for Safety of Appliances

By Tom Blewitt / Technical Advisor, US TAG for IEC TC 61

International electrical appliance standardization is conducted under the auspices of IEC TC 61 by national committees, whose members represent over 40 countries. These national committees manage standardization via their own technical committees, often referred to as "mirror committees." They are organized and have scopes similar to the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) committee that they "mirror." In the United States, a TAG is the mirror committee for appliances. Participation in a TAG is important for those interested in influencing the content of IEC appliance standards.

"TAG" is an acronym for "Technical Advisory Group." There are US TAG's for numerous IEC technical committees (TC's) and sub-committees (SC's, semi-independent committees under TC's). In the US there are four such TAG's associated with the "safety of appliances" (TAG for SC61C – refrigeration equipment, SC61D – air-conditioning equipment, SC61J – commercial cleaning machines and TC61 - appliances). Another TAG is in the process of being re-formed (SC 61B – microwave appliances). Each of the TAG's operates independently and their principal scope of work is the development and maintenance of standards within the scope of the IEC committee that they mirror.

UL's Combustion Testing Solutions

By Travis Hardin / Business Development Manager

On November 24, 2015, UL opened its latest HVAC testing laboratory in Newton, IA. This new facility, designed with the manufacturer needs in mind, demonstrates UL's commitment to supporting innovation in all sectors of the combustion appliance market and continues to position UL to be a global leader in combustion product safety and performance testing.

A Letter from Brian

What keeps you up at night? Depending on your role in your organization, the answer may differ. The most common responses that I receive are cyber threats, product issues in the field, and constantly changing regulatory environment globally. UL has developed expertise in all of these areas. In Cybersecurity, UL has created a much-needed standard and is developing industry specific services. We help with field issues also. In your New Product Design cycle, UL can help minimize potential field issues with our Risk Mitigation Service as well as help after field issues are discovered through our forensics service. To assist with global regulatory requirements, we have developed a well-connected team who can explain how the regulation (safety, energy efficiency, environmental, etc.) specifically impacts you.

We look forward to working with you in 2016!

Kind Regards,

Brian Ferriol
Director of Global Appliances,
HVAC/R and Lighting

Education and Training

At UL Knowledge Services, our goal is to help you develop safer, more useful products that meet and exceed your customers' needs. Here you'll find various training courses taught by qualified instructors that you can take advantage of.

Find a full list of scheduled public workshops and online courses here.

UL Product SPEC™

By Marguerite E. Carroll / Regulatory Services Regional Manager

Powerful search tool now available

In the past many have relied on printed UL product directories and UL'sOnline Certifications Directory to obtain UL product certification information for productsthat are referenced in the North American model installation codes. These resources contain useful information, but familiarity with UL terms and product categories is often needed to locate the information. In response to user's requests, UL developed this next generation online tool with a portfolio of user friendly, intuitive features.

Five tools in one

UL Product Spec is actually a combination of five tools in one. It includes customized searches as follows:

Search by installation code requirements using section numbers from 32 of the most commonly used North American model codes.

- Keyword search by product type using common industry terms.
- Browse Products, Systems and Assemblies by intuitive groupings of UL product categories
- Find information based on traditional UL product category codes.
- Use the Construction Specifications Institute's (CSI)MasterFormat section numbers as a basis for the search.

Smart phone and tablet friendly

UL Product Spec is a web-based tool (not an App) available at www.ul.com/productspec. It does not require special login access or training to use, and is designed to right size to your screen and works equally well on smart phones, tablets, laptops and desk tops. Some of the key features on UL Product Spec include the following:

Open Letter from Jeff

Our team values the partnerships we have formed throughout the years and are always looking for new and innovative ways to support your business goals and objectives.

As we look to the New Year we would like to share with you a few ways in which we can collaborate to add value to your organization.

Where do you want to go in 2016? We are here to help you navigate the growing complexities of international product safety and market access, particularly regulatory compliance, energy efficiency and performance testing and certification.Our Global Market Access (GMA) business has grown significantly this year, enabling our customers to bring their products to new and emerging markets such as the Middle East, Latin America and Southeast Asia. Try our new GMA Configurator, an interactive map designed to help you explore markets and marks, at www.ul-certification.com.

How fast do you want to get there? From a speed to market perspective UL has reduced our certification turnaround time substantially, making things happen faster and more efficiently – in most cases in four weeks or less.This allows us to meet your timely go-to-market needs without compromising quality or integrity.

Why UL? Our customers are increasingly satisfied with UL. When recently independently surveyed, here's what they had to say about us:

• UL is easy to do business with
• UL completes projects in timeframe needed
• UL engineers manage all aspects of projects
• Experiences with UL meet expectations

In addition, our Net Promoter Score (NPS) is amongst the highest when benchmarked against best in class B2B companies. See the following source link for more information on NPS, www.netpromoter.com/know/.

We look forward to working with you on expanding our existing relationship and fostering new ones for a successful 2016 and beyond.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at JeffSmidtGM@ul.com.

Jeff Smidt
Vice President and General Manager
Appliances, HVAC and Lighting Division
UL LLC

(Feature Article continued)

US TAG for Safety of Appliances

A US TAG is open to those interested in standardization and who can materially and directly contribute to the work of the TAG within the area(s) of its scope. The largest of the appliance safety TAG's is the one for TC 61. There are approximately 70 members representing producers, users, government, trade associations, academia, consulting, standards development organizations and test houses.

The TAG for TC 61 meets twice a year, typically in March and August/September, to review and discuss current standards proposals under consideration by IEC TC 61. The deliverable for each of these one-day meetings is a documented US national committee position on each proposal to be subsequently considered by IEC TC 61 when it meets later in the year. Appliances on the agenda for the next TAG meeting (March 2 in Melville, NY) include: room heaters, instantaneous water heaters, sauna heating appliances, multifunctional shower cabinets, UV water treatment appliances, stationery cooking appliances, appliances for skin care, towel rails, shoe dryers and drives for gates, doors and windows.

Discussions during meetings often include the sharing of information on how the IEC process works, the rationale for existing requirements, anticipated future new work items and, often, technical discussions to help build support for US-generated proposals to revise IEC standards. Though its purpose is not to be a training venue, participation over a series of meetings has proven to be quite helpful in this regard to new members.

Retail Roundup

Did you know…?

Nearly 60% of consumers associate the UL brand with safety, and more than 40% associate the brand with performance, authenticity and quality.

Do more with the mark that you have earned! With a new team in place we're looking to work with you on ways you can leverage the UL mark in retail, ecommerce and packaging. UL's retail services team is engaged with global retailers and manufacturers, changing the way you can promote and share the quality and performance of your product.

Contact our team today for a review of how we can assist with your needs. Melissa.williams@ul.com, **Director of Retail Services.**

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UL's Combustion Testing Solutions

A second combustion testing laboratory, located in Toronto, Canada, is scheduled to open for business by the end of February. Our Toronto lab will provide our Canadian customers with local service as well as position UL as a partner with the Provincial authorities to promote safe living and working environments where combustion appliances and equipment are utilized.

For over 80 years UL has been a leader in the testing and certification of residential, commercial, and industrial combustion appliances and equipment, performing certifications, serving as technical experts on codes and standards, and creating new requirements for new technologies.With the opening of our new state-of-the-art combustion products labs in the US & Canada, UL has the ability to provide safety, performance, reliability, and custom testing on products up to 2.5 million BTU per hour with hydronic capabilities up to 50 gallons per minute using natural gas, propane, butane, blended gases, fuel oils, biofuels and solid fuels.Our blended gas mixing equipment also allows us to conduct butane/air tests per the ANSI Z21/83 series standards at your specific location and/or laboratory.In addition to our combustion capabilities, we can test electrically powered heating equipment, such as electric boilers and water heaters, at 50 or 60 Hz and up to 480 Volts and 100 Amps.

(Feature Article continued)

US TAG for Safety of Appliances

The TAG's for the subcommittees (SC 61C, et al.) meet at different times following their own operating practice. Each TAG has its own technical advisor who chairs the meetings and serves as the primary contact for the TAG. Each also has its own administrator.

If you are interested in influencing the standards development process by getting involved in international appliance safety standardization, you should consider joining the appropriate US TAG. You can begin that process by emailing Sonya Bird (sonya.m.bird@ul.com) and describing the products and/or IEC standards in which you have interest.

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UL's Combustion Testing Solutions

UL's engineering technical experts can certify gas-fired, oil-fired, and solid fuel-fired products to the ANSI Z21/83, CSA, and UL series of safety standards for your US and Canadian products.We can also provide testing services in our North American based laboratories for compliance with the European Gas Appliance Directive through our network of partners in the EU.For the customer's energy efficiency testing needs, UL is accredited to perform Energy Star, DOE, NRCan, CEC, and IEC testing on a variety of products including boilers, clothes dryers, cooking appliances, furnaces, pool heaters, and water heaters.Our labs can also service your NOx testing needs, as UL is an approved laboratory for South Coast Air Quality Management District's Rule 1111 for natural gas fired fan type central furnaces. For solid fuel-fired appliances, UL is an accredited Third Party Certifier for the United States Environmental Protection Agency's requirements for wood heaters, hydronic heaters and forced air furnaces.

UL can also test to custom protocols designed to meet the individual testing requirements of our customer.And, where test protocols do not exist, UL's team of experienced test engineers can develop one specifically for your product to meet your testing objectives.

We will review and expand our service offerings continuously to meet the demands and needs of our customers.We request our customers to ask UL to provide any combustion related testing service you need. To find out how UL would be able to provide solutions for your products and business, contact us at UL.ProductEngineering@ul.com for all your combustion product testing and certification needs.

The Smart Choice for Smart Appliances

By Manas Mehandru / Business Development Manager, IoT

INTEROPERABILITY – Consumers expect their Smart products to work together and perform as advertised. UL helps manufacturers validate, through Interoperability testing, the technology and communication protocols they have chosen so the products will work in an Internet of Everything (IoE) environment.

CONNECTIVITY – Smart performance requires connectivity. UL will help validate that your device connects seamlessly with various networks for simple and customer friendly installations.

SECURITY – Connectivity requires security. UL is developing services to help secure your brand and product launch by evaluating for software weaknesses, vulnerabilities, presence of known malware and whether your devices have applicable security controls.

UL has the expertise to help address each of these requirements prior to product launch and afterward where security management is required as well.

For more information please contact
SmartAppliances@ul.com

Code Related Support When You Need It

By Marguerite E. Carroll / Regulatory Services Regional Manager

Did you know that UL actively participates in more code development related committees and code hearings than any other certification organization? We do this to support of our certifications for products that are covered by the model codes. The knowledge and experience that we develp through this active participation can also assist you in identifying code compliance issues related to your product and proactively addressing them before they become acceptance issues in the field.

Through UL Regulatory Services you can receive:

- Education on codes and UL programs
- Consultation regarding:
  - Code compliance of product design
    - Our knowledge of the codes and experience with code authority interpretations
      can assist in identifying key design issues that may lead to acceptance issues down the road.
  - Mentoring on manufacturer-initiated code proposals
    - Navigating all codes that apply to a product can be challenging.UL Regulatory Services can advise which codes apply to your product and when/how to submit code change proposals for those codes. We can also advise you on code compliant concepts and language to assist in successful code changes to support your design acceptance and help you monitor the progress of proposals throughout the code development cycle
- Jurisdictional acceptance mapping
  - Jurisdictions can amend model codes to invoke stricter requirements.UL Regulatory Services can help you identify those jurisdictions that are the most challenging and work with you to develop a plan to proactively address potential AHJ concerns in those areas
- Jurisdictional support
  - UL Regulatory Services staff attend AHJ (authority having jurisdiction) association meetings and develop trusted relationships with AHJs across the US and Canada on a local chapter as well as a national level.If you are being challenged on the acceptance of your product, we can help facilitate a solution.

For more information regarding these services contact UL Regulatory Services at T: +1.800.595.9844; E: ulregulatoryservices@UL.com or get more information at UL.com/codeauthorities.

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UL Product SPEC™

Search by Installation Code

This search allows you to select your installation code and section and find the UL product categories and certifications that apply to that code section for a code compliant installation.

Search by Product Type

This search tool is a significant advancement over the Keyword and other searches included on ULs Online Certifications Directory (OCD), because it focuses on code related products and searches an increased number of UL databases.

Product systems or assemblies

This is a customized search function that lets you browse intuitive groupings of UL product categories and includes two main selections:

1. Equipment and systems covered by the National Electrical Code, and
2. Equipment, systems designs, and assemblies covered by North American building and fire codes.

MasterFormat number search

The Construction Specifications Institute publishes MasterFormat, a master list of titles and numbers used to organize specifications and other project information for most commercial building design and construction projects in North America. These titles and section numbers are used to organize and standardize data about construction requirements, products, and activities.

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UL Product SPEC™

A brand new search function provided by UL Product Spec includes the ability to search for certifications that are associated with a particular MasterFormat section number. MasterFormat section numbers have already been added to numerous UL product categories, and these will be added to additional product categories in the upcoming months.

What about sustainability?

UL Product Spec is also a gateway to a wide range of green construction and sustainability certifications. These include code correlations for ASHRAE 189.1, Cal Green, and the International Green Construction Code. In addition a variety of green building certifications and evaluations, such as those involving indoor air are linked from this tool.

As can be seen UL Product Spec is a portfolio of web based tools that can be used to help achieve safe, sustainable code compliant installations. There is no charge for accessing and using this tool, and it will be continually updated in the future so it reflects the most current and relevant certification and evaluation information. Save it to your home screen on your smart device and it will act just like an app or bookmark it today on your various devices. www.ul.com/productspec. To view "How To' Product Spec You Tube videos, go to www.ul.com/psvideo.

For additional information on this tool please contact Tom Lichtenstein in Northbrook, Ill. at Thomas.R.Lichtenstein@ul.com, or +1.847.664.2160.

UL Puts HazLoc Technical Expertise at Your Fingertips

UL understands that business is fierce due to the continued low oil prices and other global economic challenges including the competitive petroleum, chemical and energy business. In addition, technology is evolving every day resulting in new issues associated with hydrogen, biofuels, and refrigerants. Therefore, having one comprehensive source for Hazardous Locations installation principles that helps you with speed to market is key to your success – but what trusted resource do you have to quickly access essential HazLoc information 24/7?Turn to UL.

UL has just launched a new HazLoc App to facilitate a common understanding of global hazardous locations (explosive atmospheres) for industry stakeholders – putting expertise at your fingertips.Download it now for free using iTunes® or Google Play™

Whether a designer, manufacturer, distributor, inspector / regulatory, or end-user in the oil & gas, chemical, agricultural, pharmaceutical, offshore, or mining industry, you will benefit from having one comprehensive source for installation principles regarding explosive atmospheres searchable by the following attributes:

- Types of explosive atmospheres
- Likelihood an explosive atmosphere is present
- Ignition-related properties of explosive atmospheres
- Temperature classifications based on maximum surface temperatures
- Methods of explosion protection regarding electrical and non-electrical risks of ignition

Standards Corner

By Joe Musso / Standards Program Manager

Click here for Standards information

Register for "What's New" to receive e-mails twice a month indicating the new published UL Standards, Outlines, and Proposals.

UL 325 – Door, Drapery, Gate, Louver, and Window Operators

- UL 325 remains very active with a number of proposals in various stages of the standards development process.

- In addition to the current standards activity, UL was asked by industry in Canada and the US to propose UL 325 as a joint Canada-US standard, in order to align the requirements in both countries. Publication of one standard for both countries is an efficient way for Canadian and US requirements to remain technically consistent. Maintaining the joint standard under a single consensus committee (STP 325) will reduce duplication of efforts. A meeting of STP 325 to kick off the joint Canadian-US standard work was held February 3, 2016.

UL 507 – Electric Fans

- A series of 9 proposal topics were posted for ballot November 6, 2015, with ballots and comments due January 7. All of the proposals reached consensus, but several comments were received. A recirculation of any revisions to the proposals based on the ballot comments will occur in Q1 2016.

- A meeting of STP 507, to discuss several new proposals, and other current standards activity, is scheduled for February 23, 2016, in Clearwater, FL..

STP 745 – Electric Tools

- With the IEC transition to the new IEC 62841 series of standards for hand-held and transportable tools, and lawn and garden machinery, efforts are continuing to adopt and publish the associated UL 62841 Parts when appropriate, as the IEC editions are published.

- The most recent activity in this area has been efforts to adopt the IEC-based standards for transportable table saws, UL 62841-3-1, transportable mitre saws, UL 62841-3-9, and transportable cut-off machines, UL 62841-3-10.

UL 749 – Household Dishwashers
(Bi-national standard with Canada)

- The proposed 9th Edition of UL 749 went to STP ballot November 20, 2015, with ballots closing January 19, 2016. STP consensus was reached, with comments. The technical harmonization committee (THC) is reviewing the comments, and any changes made to the proposals based on comments received, will be recirculated to the STP (target Q1/Q2 2016).

UL 858 – Electric Ranges

- UL 858 was very active in 2015, with several proposals completing the standards process, and being published. These include internal wiring changes, new requirements for range stability, a new moisture/washing test, a new abnormal coil surface unit cooking oil ignition test, new temperature limits for child-accessible surfaces, and new requirements for radiant, open-wire/ribbon heating elements guarded by mesh barriers. 2016 will be another active year for UL 858, with a series of new proposals set to begin the standards development cycle during Q1.

UL 923 – Microwave Cooking Appliances

- During 2015, a task group developed a set of proposals covering polymeric materials and other related items. The proposals reached consensus and were published in November.

UL 982 – Household Food Preparing Machines

- Three proposal topics, including use of on/off symbol markings, addition of a blender blade endurance test, and a fill line for food processors with a feed opening but without a discharge opening. The preliminary review for those topics closed August 14, 2015. Preliminary comments are being reviewed, and the STP ballot will be next (target February 2016).

- A meeting of STP 982 is scheduled for March 17, 2016, at UL's RTP, NC Office.

UL 1004-9 – Form Wound and Medium Voltage Rotating Electrical Machines

- Announcing publication (January 2016) of the First Edition of the UL Standard for Form Wound and Medium Voltage Rotating Electrical Machines, UL 1004-9. Since form wound and medium voltage machines are typically professionally installed and maintained where only trained personnel are normally granted access, the evaluation criteria for insulation materials and systems incorporate considerations different from the low voltage/commercial evaluation requirements covered by UL 1004-1.

Standards Corner

UL 1017 – Vacuum Cleaners, Blower Cleaners, and Household Floor Finishing Machines (Bi-national standard with Canada)

- The 9th edition of UL 1017 was published April 13, 2015. A new revision cycle is in the early stage of development.

UL 1026 – Electric Household Cooking and Food Serving Appliances

- Three proposals related to slow cooker supply cords, separate action for stay on function for toaster ovens, and redundant control based on food load ignition testing, completed the standards development process in 2015, and were published in UL 1026 in January 2016.
- A meeting of STP 1026 is scheduled for March 16, 2016, at UL's RTP, NC Office.

UL 1278 – Movable and Wall- or Ceiling-Hung Electric Room Heaters

- A proposal to add a new supplement for smart-enabled room heaters went to the STP for preliminary review in 2014. The comments are being considered by a task group formed for this purpose, to further develop the proposal prior to moving to ballot. Based on the work still necessary, the ballot timeframe has not been determined.
- Several additional proposals went to ballot in 2015. These include requirements for polymeric enclosures, use of "S" type supply cords, soldering of internal connections, and wire size AWG for internal wiring based on current. The proposals for polymeric enclosures, and wire size AWG reached consensus with comments, and will be recirculated to the STP with any changes based on comments. The other two proposals did not reach consensus.
- A meeting of STP 1042 (also covers UL 1278) is scheduled for February 22, 2016, in Clearwater, FL.

UL 1082 – Electric Coffee Makers and Brewing-Type Appliances

- A proposal for the carafe handle security test was posted for STP preliminary review in 2015. Preliminary comments are being reviewed, with STP ballot being the next step (target February 2016).
- A meeting of STP 1026 (also covers UL 1082) is scheduled for March 16, 2016, at UL's RTP, NC Office.

UL 2157 – Electric Clothes Washing Machines and Extractors (Bi-National Standard with Canada)

- The 3rd Edition of UL 2157 was published in November 2015. A new revision cycle is in the early stage of development.

UL 2158 – Electric Clothes Dryers (Bi-National Standard with Canada)

- The 4th Edition of UL 2158 was published in December 2015. A new revision cycle is in the early stage of development.

UL 60335-1 – Household and Similar Electrical Appliances, Part 1: General Requirements

- In 2015, the 6th Edition of UL 60335-1 was circulated for preliminary review and comment. The harmonization committee has reviewed the comments, and the next step will be ballot (target February 2016).

UL 60335-2-24 – Household Refrigerators, Ice-Cream Appliances, and Ice-Makers (Tri-National Standard with Canada and Mexico)

- The 2nd Edition of UL 60335-2-24 was circulated for STP preliminary review and comment October 2015. The CANENA technical harmonization committee (THC) has reviewed the comments. The next step will be for the North American consensus bodies to initiate their respective ballots (target Q1 of 2016).

UL 60335-2-79 – Household High Pressure Cleaners and Steam Cleaners

- Announcing publication (January 2016) of the First Edition of the UL Standard for Household and Similar Electrical Appliances - Safety - Part 2-79: Particular Requirements for High Pressure Cleaners and Steam Cleaners, UL 60335-2-79, as a new IEC-based UL standard, with National Differences.

Tradeshows

MCE – Mostra Convegno Expocomfort

March 15-18, 2016 – Milan, IT

Booth #: MCE Hall 24 / Stand S22

Learn more >

HPB Expo – Hearth, Barbecue & Patio Expo

March 17-19, 2016 – New Orleans, LA

Booth #: 2705

Learn more >

NHS – National Hardware Show

September May 4-6, 2016 – Las Vegas, NV

Booth #:3461

Learn more >

International Pool, Spa, Patio Expo

October November 2-4, 2016 – New Orleans, LA

Booth #: 4650

Learn more >

NRA (National Restaurant) Show

UL Everclean

May 21-24, 2016 – Chicago, IL

Booth #: 1660

Learn more >

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UL Puts HazLoc Technical Expertise at Your Fingertips

- Markings required by both standards and by national or regional regulations
- National, regional and international standards, including a "Find Your Standard™" feature based on the selection of five simple data points
- Ingress protection (IP) codes and Type ratings for equipment enclosures
- Contact options for additional information and questions

This new app is the latest UL educational effort for global hazardous locations (explosive atmospheres).

UL also offers public and private workshops along with our website where you can order complementary copies of the UL Hazloc wallchart poster and binder-sized brochures.

UL has been a thought leader in the field of hazardous locations for over 100 years. We hope UL's continuing educational efforts are another reason for you to always rely on UL for HazLoc safety science research, testing and certification.

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