

UL S8001 solutions for portable flashlights and area lights

For years, the portable flashlight industry has been plagued with manufacturers and products that misrepresent or exaggerate their product's output of lumens. Without a way to prove that their purchases will live up to the expected product performance, people who specify, purchase and use portable flashlights are forced to rely on manufacturers' packaging to guide their purchasing decisions.

Developing benchmarks for the flashlight industry

High-quality products are essential for first responders, law enforcement, military, and security, and inadequate performance could potentially lead to unintended safety risks. Additionally, poor-performing products and products that promote false claims negatively impact retailers and resellers, exposing them to increased product returns and potential damage to their reputation and brand.

The Portable Lights American Trade Organization (PLATO) recently published the updated ANSI/PLATO FL-1 2019 standard, providing a benchmark for the industry and significantly benefiting consumers by improving portable lighting quality and the importance of transparency. PLATO's standard aims to:

- Require proper markings and reporting of performance metrics
- Ensure accurate measurements for brightness, beam distance and run time
- Encourage measurement of product performance through independent, third-party testing

In partnership with PLATO, we have created the UL S8001 certification program (category control number is OUTF) that will accept data, vet facilities and then approve the use of the UL Certified Enhanced Mark that can be applied to all certified products and literature. We will maintain a searchable database for retailers with relevant performance criteria and monitor the market with ongoing surveillance.

What are the benefits of UL S8001?

For manufacturers

- Differentiation in the market
- Validation of product claims
- Proof of legitimacy

For retailers

- Identify fraudulent products
- Reduce customer complaints
- Protect brand and reputation

For consumers

- Identify products that have performance certification
- Provides third-party information to help with purchasing decisions


PLATO




UL S8001 and the use of the UL Certified Enhanced Mark demonstrates compliance to the certification criteria by a respected independent third-party laboratory and also gives retailers the tools they need to search for products that meet the ANSI/PLATO FL-1 2019 standard requirements in an easy-to-use database. UL S8001 includes:

- Usage of the UL Certified Enhanced Mark on products and literature
- Inclusion of all certificates of compliance and test data in UL Product iQ™ searchable directory
- Continued surveillance of the market by our dedicated staff
- Tiered pricing options based on the number of models submitted, including unlimited submissions within a 12-month time frame
- Private labeling options for manufacturers utilizing an existing certified product
- Proper usage of ANSI/PLATO FL-1 2019 designated icons

Example icons of ANSI/PLATO FL 1 – 2019 UL S8001 Flashlight Performance:



FL 1 STANDARD				
LIGHT OUTPUT 900 LUMENS	BEAM DISTANCE 250m	PEAK BEAM INTENSITY 12500 cd	APPROVAL StVZO	WATERPROOF 2m



FL 1 STANDARD	SPOT	FLOOD	DAY-SAFE FLASH
	125 LUMENS	125 LUMENS	125 LUMENS
	3h 20min	3h 30min	3h 20min
	71m	12m	71m



Contact us at lightinginfo@UL.com to learn more about how UL S8001 can strengthen your brand and the portable lights industry.



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