



UL



## WireTalk™

September, 2020

UL WIRETALK™ is developed specifically for the wire and cable industry. It is intended to serve as a platform for UL's Wire & Cable division to share news, information and insights with the industry's key stakeholders.

### Featured

UL Launches New Testing and Certification Program for Photovoltaic Cables

Photovoltaic (PV) cables are a critical part of renewable energy infrastructure. As the market grows, there is increasing concern about their performance and safety.

To help manufacturers access global markets and promote compliance of their products, UL can provide testing to all major standards (UL 4703, EN 50618 and IEC 62930) through our new test and certification program for photovoltaic cables.

The associated certification programs are designed to address the industry's concerns via a trusted third-party organization.

The program offers a variety of deliverables that will suit most regions' requirements, including the UL-EU Certification Mark (based on EN 50618).

Please contact your UL representative to learn more about this new offering via [UL.com/contactwc](https://www.ul.com/contactwc).



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### Accelerated Market Readiness for Cables Using EVA Materials

UL 1581, the Reference Standard for Electrical Wires, Cables, and Flexible Cords, now includes tensile and elongation requirements for thermoplastic ethylene-vinyl acetate



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(EVA) insulation and jacket materials rated 75, 90 and 105°C. The requirements can be found in Tables 50.246, 50.247, and 50.248 respectively.

In UL 1581, EVA is defined as either:

- a) An EVA copolymer, or
- b) EVA copolymer blended with polyolefin compound(s). The compound shall contain at least 5 percent vinyl acetate as a percentage of the total polymer content.

It has long been industry practice and knowledge that EVA has been included in some Fire-Resistant Polyethylene (FRPE) compounds rated 75 and 90°C, however the addition of EVA was not readily identified until the compounds were subject to the Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) test during the evaluation of the compounds for a Halogen Free rating. Therefore, the requirements for EVA rated 75 and 90°C mirror those for FRPE rated 75 and 90°C.

Manufacturers of cable and compounds are seeing an increasing need for 105°C rated EVA as an insulating or jacketing material in their halogen-free offerings. Previously, cables using these materials were subjected to a 150-day aging program as there were no predetermined requirements to verify compliance. The inclusion of Table 50.248 will allow users of EVA a shorter time to market.

Please contact your UL representative to learn more about this program via [UL.com/contactwc](https://www.ul.com/contactwc).

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#### UL Verify Mark Helps Brands Deliver Trust to Those Looking to Make Tough Buying Decisions



Today, specifiers, purchasers and various stakeholders along the supply chain of the wire and cable industry are more informed and connected, driving new levels of skepticism regarding the unsubstantiated performance claims of manufacturers and their products. UL helps brands and manufacturers confidently stand out from the crowd with trusted, independent confirmation of their marketing claims related to the performance, functionality, or features of products, facilities, processes, and systems.

The UL Marketing Claim Verification program pairs your innovation and product excellence with the trusted science-based processes of UL to help set your product apart in the market.

What is UL's Marketing Claim Verification?

UL's Verified Mark demonstrates that UL has verified the specific marketing claim of these products and processes through independent, repeatable, science-based assessments. UL's Verification provides objective credibility to the accuracy of the marketing claims. The Verified Mark can be used on product, packaging and promotion and is available for products, systems, processes, facilities and more. Specific information about each Verified marketing claim is publicly available at UL's online database UL Verify. In addition to verified claims for the wire and cable industry, the Verified Mark has been issued to products such as HVAC/R equipment, appliances, notebook computers, LED lighting and equipment, chemical additives and many others. For further information, please see [verify.ul.com/why-get-verified](https://verify.ul.com/why-get-verified).

An increasing number of wire and cable companies are using the UL Verification Mark to differentiate their products from the competition and demonstrate to their customers that their marketing claims have been rigorously and objectively evaluated for accuracy. Visit [here](#) to see some of the examples.

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## Also Featured

### UL Announces New Wire and Cable Virtual Classroom Training in October

UL is pleased to announce new customer training opportunities, with three virtual classroom training workshops available for booking in October:

- [Appliance Wiring Material \(UL 758\), Oct. 13, 2020, 1 – 5pm CEST](#)
- [Communications \(under 300 V\) and Optical Fiber Cables – UL 444, UL 13, UL 1651, UL 1655, UL 1424, UL 1425, UL 2250, Oct. 8, 2020, 1 – 5pm CEST](#)
- [Flexible Cords & Cables \(UL 62 / CSA C22.2 No. 49\), Oct. 6, 2020, 2:30 – 6:30pm CEST](#)

The courses are part of a wider offering that UL's wire and cable division has launched, aimed at delivering firsthand industry and technical training to customers and stakeholders worldwide.

The program includes a variety of subjects, including UL, IEC and other standards alongside service and product related courses such as cable fire testing, laboratories best practices, CPR, photovoltaic cables and other aspects of the wire and cable industry.

All courses are developed and delivered by UL's own subject matter experts, in collaboration with training, learning and development professionals, and are suitable for people new to the subject as well as for experienced individuals.

Each course content can be adapted to suit your business needs and delivered in a variety of ways, such as online or face to face, for individuals or groups of people, as well as company-specific training.



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Available courses can be found on UL's Knowledge Solutions' training platform: [www.UL.com/w&ctraining](http://www.UL.com/w&ctraining).

As our team is currently working on adding more courses, please contact your UL representative to know more about this new offering and future training opportunities [UL.com/contactwc](http://UL.com/contactwc).

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## Reminder to UL Wire and Cable Customers for Cord Set and Power Supply Cord Products

In 2013, we launched the enhanced UL Mark and promotional badge system to make it easier for the market to understand the scope of our certification, to deliver more transparency to product users and to offer new tools to promote your UL certifications. When we introduced the enhanced UL Mark system, we also announced that our standard labels would adopt the enhanced Mark format. We have taken steps to require the use of the enhanced UL Mark on all combination labels as well, which took effect on July 31, 2020.

We now require that all cord sets and power supply cord products carrying standard or combination labels with the enhanced UL Mark use only the UL promotional badge for packaging and promotion. You can visit UL Marks Hub at [markshub.UL.com](http://markshub.UL.com) to learn more. Access is complimentary, but registration is required.

### UL Mark and badge usage



Product (Mark only)



Packaging (badge)



Promotional material (badge)

### Possibilities



UL Enhanced Mark on Product Badge on Packaging and Promotional Material

(required for all wire and cable products starting July 1, 2021)



UL Enhanced Mark on Product Legacy UL Mark on Package and Promotional Material

(permitted through June 30, 2021)



Legacy UL Mark on Product Badge on Packaging and Promotional Material

(permitted through June 30, 2021)

During the transitional period from now through June 30, 2021, UL will allow, for cord set and power supply cord products, the use of the enhanced UL Mark on standard or combination labels together with the legacy UL Mark on the packaging, as well as the use of the legacy UL Mark on standard or combination labels together with the promotional badge on the packaging. Beginning July 1, 2021, all packaging for products using the enhanced Mark version of the standard or combination labels must also use the promotional badge on the packaging, after which further use of the legacy UL Mark on the packaging for products carrying an enhanced UL Mark will result in a variation notice.

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### UL Enhanced Follow-up Service Program - termination list update

The termination list for Enhanced Follow-up Service Program was updated on November 8, 2019. Please contact UL at



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[UL.AgreementViolationTermination@ul.com](mailto:UL.AgreementViolationTermination@ul.com)

if you have any questions.

[See The Full List](#)

### Premium features from Product iQ™

On Sept. 17, UL Product iQ will introduce two new premium features and begin offering the first month of premium subscriptions for free.

In addition to the free, user-friendly Product iQ search platform, premium tools are available to help users search more efficiently. As a part of UL's commitment to provide robust digital solutions to help our customers, Product iQ has introduced several new features to make certification related searches easier for engineers, product safety specialists, compliance professionals and others leveraging the tool.

A premium Product iQ membership allows users to proactively monitor certification changes, produce and provide certification documents for customers, more easily conduct and repeat regular queries, add certification data to existing analyses, and compare multiple files side by side. These features are intended to meet the needs of the variety of users who rely on Product iQ for UL Certification information.

With a premium Product iQ account users can:

- proactively monitor changes to a saved search or file with email alerts
- easily produce and print confirmation letters
- save complex or regularly needed searches
- tag and group content to customize searches

Beginning Sept.17, premium users will also be able to:

- export certification information to reference later or incorporate into component analyses
- compare multiple products side by side

All of these time saving features will be available via a free 30-day trial. To get started with a trial, simply login to an existing Product iQ account and [upgrade](#) on or after September 17<sup>th</sup>.



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Premium features are always free for authorities having jurisdiction and Product iQ users belonging to agencies or organizations that are UL partners. To request free, premium access, please go [here](#).

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### How Machine Safety Assessments Can Help Minimize Risk

Most injuries don't happen on a good day when everything is running well. They seem to happen when the day is already off to a rough start, which is why you can't rely on human judgment to keep your employees safe.

When you look at many factories today, you'd probably see a variety of machines – different eras, different complexities, and diverse skill sets required.

“When reviewing the operations of complex automation systems, specialist knowledge is required to identify these hazards,” licensed professional engineer Ken Hackworth explained recently. “Operators are exposed to a myriad of hazards, everything from sharp edges to software errors and component failures. Of these, inadvertent starting of the machine – exposing an operator to hazardous energy – is among the most dangerous. Powered machinery, if not properly safeguarded, presents a high risk for injuries such as amputations and fatalities. We see these routinely.”

Employers are required to provide a safe workplace – it's an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirement in the U.S. Part of providing a safe workplace is identifying the hazards before an accident occurs. Employers must identify the correct skills needed to operate a machine and offer the right training and supervision to promote workplace safety.

Fortunately, tools and services are available to help manufacturing facilities owners understand and mitigate their risk.

UL offers a [free risk assessment tool](#) to help safety managers evaluate their in-house machines. Help review your risk – learn more about UL's [Machine Risk Assessment Services](#) today.

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