



UL



WireTalk™

March 1, 2021

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 Secures Notified Body Status for CPR for Cables



UL International (Netherlands) B.V. has recently achieved System 1+ Notified Body status for Product Area 31 (Power, Control and Communication Cable) of the EU's Construction Products Regulation (EU) No 305/2011. The Dutch government authorized UL International (Netherlands) B.V. as Notified Body number 2821 following a

successful assessment by RvA (Raad voor Accreditatie) earlier this year.

UL has been extensively involved in all aspects of CPR testing for cables since it became mandatory on July 1, 2017.

With this new designation, the process is further streamlined for UL customers globally as testing, quality assessments and certification can be conducted by UL, and helps them move products into the EU 27 marketplace.

Further, because of UL's global reach, customers can access other markets around the world through testing and certification that meet requirements in those markets. This reduces the need to seek local support elsewhere in the world, making the customer experience more seamless. Cables that are tested and certified through UL, including for CPR, are also eligible to be listed in UL's Product iQ™ database, providing product information daily to thousands of unique visitors.

If you have questions or want to learn more about our wire and cable testing and certification services in Europe, please contact us at

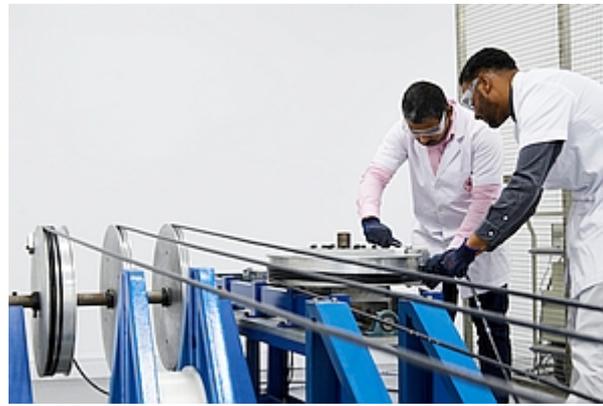
EU.WireandCable@ul.com .

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UL Launches Fiber Optics Testing and Research Laboratory in Abu Dhabi

UL has launched its first fiber optics

testing and research laboratory in the Middle East with the opening of a 600 square-meter facility in Abu Dhabi. Established as a global center of excellence, the laboratory will service customers from around the globe, with a focus on Middle Eastern, European and African markets.



According to the leading industry body, Fibre to the Home Council Middle East North Africa, the United Arab Emirates ranked first for the highest fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) penetration among its global counterparts in 2019, with its fiber network coverage surpassing that of Singapore, China, South Korea, Hong Kong and Japan. The increased use of fiber optic connections between government departments is further contributing to the higher demand for wires and cables. For example, according to the Dubai E-Government's executive team, 70 percent of Dubai's government departments utilize fiber optic connections for the flow of digital information.

As a leading ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory, UL's testing and research laboratory will provide a comprehensive range of customer-centric testing and compliance services, including rigorous assessments for manufacturers, installers, brand owners, retailers, regulatory bodies and consumers, which will help reduce liability and risk across supply chains. The facility will test and certify products within the FTTH network, such as cables, splitters, patch cords, distribution boxes and closures.

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Taiwan Laboratory Approved for Thunderbolt™ 4 Host Product Certification Testing



UL has received approval from the Intel Corporation to conduct Thunderbolt™4 host product certification testing. The new approval status allows UL to help manufacturers and brand owners adhere to relevant interoperability requirements and confirm their compliance in the market place.

Thunderbolt 4 is the next-generation connectivity solution capable of transferring data, outputting a display and providing power. Thunderbolt 4 builds on the innovation of Thunderbolt 3 connectivity, provides a 40 Gigabits per second (Gbps) connection for data and video and also provides up to 100 watts of power over a single connection. Thunderbolt 4 is the most comprehensive Thunderbolt specification to date and complies with the broadest set of industry-standard specifications, including USB4™, DisplayPort™ and PCI Express (PCIe®) and is fully compatible with prior generations of Thunderbolt and USB products.

The current scope of UL's testing for Thunderbolt covers electrical and functional testing on Thunderbolt 3 and

Thunderbolt 4 hosts such as laptops and desktop computers.

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UL Receives HDMI Forum Approval to Test New Ultra High Speed HDMI® Cables

UL's Dongguan Songshan Lake laboratory testing house now offers electromagnetic interference (EMI) compliance testing for the new Ultra High Speed (UHS) High Definition Multimedia Interface (HDMI® cables, also known as Category 3 HDMI® cables).



All UHS HDMI® cables must pass certification testing before being placed on the market. Radiation emitted by the UHS HDMI® cable should be exceptionally low as low radiation minimizes interruption to the operation of peripheral wireless devices due to the EMI of the cable.

Following testing, manufacturers need to affix an Ultra High Speed HDMI® Certification Label, allowing consumers and end users to easily verify the certification status of the cable. The HDMI Forum announced recently certification labels for the UHS HDMI® cable are available to order and industry stakeholders anticipate UHS HDMI® cables will soon appear in the market for consumers to purchase and use.

The new testing services help HDMI® Authorized Test Centers (ATCs), cable manufacturers, buyers and other customers confirm the EMI compliance of cables in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Ultra High Speed HDMI® Cable Certification Program.

[Learn more](#)

Also Featured

PV Cable Testing and Certification



Photovoltaic (PV) cables are an integral part of renewable energy infrastructure. There are different regulatory requirements globally that specify the appropriate cable to be used. To help you access the global market, UL can provide type-test reports and certification for these cables according to the standards below.

Standard	Scope	Market
EN 50618 : 2014	Electric cables for photovoltaic systems	Europe
IEC 62930 : 2017	Electric cables for photovoltaic systems with a voltage rating of 1.5 kV DC	Europe and globally
UL 4703 : 2014	Photovoltaic	United States

	wire	
CSA C22.2 No. 271 : 2011	Photovoltaic cables	Canada

EN 50618 requires flexible (Class 5) halogen-free cables, from 1.5 to 240mm². The new IEC 62930 has a larger scope which covers both stranded (from 16mm²) and flexible stranded (from 1.5mm²) cables up to 400mm², and both halogen-free cables and cables that may contain halogens.

Type of service	Deliverable
Certification to North American standards	UL Listing Certificate, test report
Certification to EN standard	UL-EU Certificate, test report
Type testing*	UL test report
Research testing*	UL test report
Performance testing	UL test report
Witness testing*	UL test report

*Testing in accordance with one or more standards described above.

For more information, please reach out to your UL representative via [UL.com/contactwc](https://www.ul.com/contactwc).

Powering the future of transportation with EV testing and certification solutions

Electric vehicle (EV) charging cables are an integral part of the charging system. Different regulatory requirements around the world specify the

appropriate cable to use. To help you compete in the global market, it's important to know that your EV charging cables are compliant. UL can provide type-test reports and certification for these cables according to the standards below.



Service Offerings

Type of service	Deliverable
Certification to North American standards	UL Listing Certificate, test report
Certification to International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)/European Standard (EN) standards	UL-EU Certificate, test report
Type testing *	UL test report
Research testing *	UL test report
Witnessed testing at factory in-house lab *	UL test report

*Testing in accordance with one or more standards described below.

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Why Charging Cable Safety Matters



USB Power Delivery revision 3.0 provides for a maximum power of up to 100 watts utilizing a USB Type-C connector. This capability effectively enables devices to be powered through connections to other powered devices. However, inexpensive or poorly designed power and charging cables

and connectors are occasionally found and can pose a potential safety risk to users. For example, the cable assembly connector could overheat due to a bad connection in the connector or the assembly was not suitable for the amount of current delivered to a device.

As shown in Table 1, a number of incidents have been publicly reported and some have resulted in recalls of affected products by regulatory bodies due to potential overheating, burn or fire hazards. This introduces the need to use flame retardant materials to produce charging cables. However, a market survey testing recently conducted by UL for 25 charger cables bought from various retail outlets in US showed that 28%-45% of them did not comply with a flame test on the raw cables and connectors respectively.*

Table 1: Incidents related to charging cables

Date	Location	Cable packed individually or with end products	Hazard	Incident	Source
11/20	Australia	with end product	Cable can overheat, posing a fire hazard	USB charging cord may overheat and burn through	ACCC
06/20	USA	Individually	Cable can overheat,	Cable, approximately	****

			posing a fire hazard	1/4" from USB-C connector, smoked and caught fire	
06/20	USA	with end product	Cable can overheat and partially melt, posing a burn hazard	Received two reports of cable overheating	CPSC
05/19	USA	Individually	Metal around cord can become electrically charged if it contacts USB wall charger plug prongs while charging, posing shock and fire hazards	Received 14 reports of cables smoking, sparking or igniting; Two reports of consumer finger burns	CPSC
03/19	USA	Individually	Cable can overheat, posing a fire hazard	USB-C connector of cable heated, melted and	****

				caught on fire	
01/19	Ireland	with end product	Cable can overheat during charging, posing a risk of burns and/or fire	Cable may overheat and burn	CCPC

Remark:

ACCC = Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

**** = SaferProducts.gov

CPSC = Consumer Product Safety Commission

CCPC = Competition and Consumer Protection Commission

*A market survey testing done by UL indicated that 7 pcs out of 25 pcs charger cable failed in 12mm flame test, and 14 pcs out of 31 pcs of charger cables failed in VW-1 flame test.

UL currently offers a charging cable safety certification program in accordance with UL 9990, the Outline for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Power Cables, to help mitigate safety risk of charging cables. Existing participants in this program are available in UL Product iQ® database, listed under UL Category Control Number "NWGI".

[Learn more](#)

Is Your Data Cable Assembly Safety Compliant?

A broad variety of data cable

assemblies, such as RJ45 ethernet cables and LC to LC optical fiber cables, are commercially available. These cables cannot be installed with a permanent wiring method unless constructed with a UL Listed cable type permitted in relevant articles of the National Electrical Code® (NEC). Most of these cable assemblies are not currently safety certified and are not under surveillance by a third party organization, such as UL. Integrators, installers or consumers can only reference the surface marking of raw cables to verify safety compliance and may have a chance to buy/install cable assemblies employing counterfeited/non-compliant raw cables. Table 1 shows the public notices announced by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and UL regarding non-compliant bulk cables found in recent years.

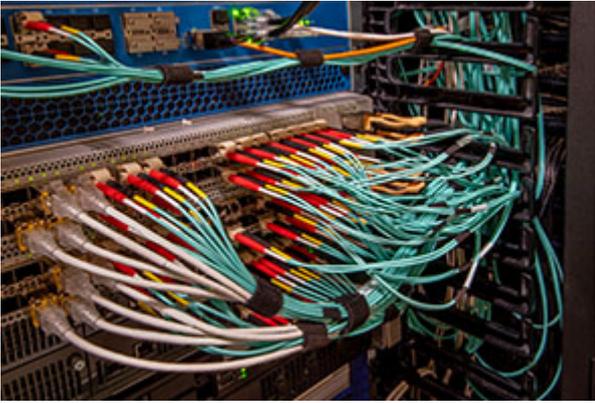


Table 1

Date	Product	Cable Type	Issue	Source
10/20	Cat 5e cable	CMR	Misuse of safety mark	UL
09/20	Cat 6 cable	CMR	Flame test failure	CPSC
09/20	Cat 5e cable	CMR	Flame test failure	UL
02/20	Cat 6 cable	CMR	Flame test failure	UL
05/16	Cat 5e cable	CMR	Flame test	UL

			failure	
03/15	Cat 6 cable	CMR	Flame test failure	UL
03/15	Cat 5e cable	CMR	Flame test failure	UL
03/15	Cat 5e cable	CMR	Flame test failure	UL

As Power over Ethernet (PoE) gradually becomes more popular, Ethernet cables are installed to power devices. However, some producers may replace copper conductors with copper-clad aluminum (CCA) to reduce cost. DC resistance of CCA conductors is much higher than copper and can cause more heat to be generated, resulting in a higher risk of overheating and fire.

UL offers safety certification described in Table 2 for various types of cable assemblies, which are identified with a UL Mark and subjected to UL surveillance programs to help ensure ongoing compliance. This provides a peace of mind on safety compliance of cable assemblies installed.

Table 2

UL Standards	UL Category Control No.	Description	Examples
UL 1677	DUNH	Communication, coaxial and broadband cable assemblies	Ethernet cable with RJ45 connectors

UL 2410	QBFA	Optical fiber cable assemblies and connectors	Optical fiber cable with Type LC/LC connectors
UL 2410	QBDV	Active Optical Cable (AOC) assemblies	QSFP cable assembly

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