



UL's testing, certification and verification services for communications cables

Building confidence in the quality and safety of communications cabling

UL, the global safety science leader, is a trusted partner for the testing, certification and verification of communications cables, helping to build confidence in cabling quality and safety. We certify to demanding product standards, provide evaluation for cable performance and minimize risks while promoting fire safety in buildings. UL also works to reduce the prevalence of counterfeit communications cables in the market to help make cabling installations safer.

A variety of services to meet your needs

UL evaluates a range of communications cables, including those intended for plenum (CMP), riser (CMR) and general purpose (CM). We offer testing and certification services designed to meet the industry's various needs, depending on stakeholder demands or intended installation.

- **UL Mark** – Many jurisdictions, installers, builders and other stakeholders require third-party certification to determine that cabling meets rigorous safety, performance and flammability standards. The UL Mark signals to industry stakeholders that a product has undergone comprehensive evaluation and meets the rigorous safety requirements outlined in the NEC, a mandatory installation code enforceable by code authorities when adopted by local jurisdictions. NEC requires that communications cables comply with requirements outlined in ANSI/UL 444, the Standard for Safety of Communications Cables, which is a binational consensus standard for the U.S. and Canada.
- **Letter report service** – We can help provide validation to your cables, such as product or feature attributes. A letter report is issued documenting the results, but no certification is granted, and there is no requirement for ongoing compliance testing.
- **Certified cable performance verification** – UL can verify transmission performance in accordance with the national or international specifications.



Did you know?

Counterfeit cabling is widespread and more challenging than ever to identify. Consider some tips to avoid counterfeit cables:

- Beware of cabling offered at a significantly lower price than market average — this can be an indication that inferior materials have been used.
- Avoid unknown brand names.
- Ensure packaging and/or cable features a third-party certification mark like UL's. Visit UL [Product IQ](#)[®], our comprehensive database of UL certified products, to verify if a product has officially received UL certification.
- Find out more about suppliers if a website or local storefront provides limited information or data regarding their point of origin, manufacturing location, etc.

If you notice any of the above conditions, take time to investigate further.

The benefits of third-party certification

Certification in accordance with ANSI/UL 444 ensures compliance with rigorous industry safety requirements. It also establishes confidence among buyers and installers that the cables they use meet the requirements for local jurisdictions. Working with UL gives cabling manufacturers visibility into potential problems early, so that they can be addressed. Trusted and widely-recognized, the UL Mark signals safety and dependability to buyers.

UL has pioneered the use of holographic UL Marks to help minimize counterfeiting. This innovative labeling system also provides a unique identifier for customers, regulators, buyers, retailers and consumers. Savvy cabling companies turn to UL for third-party testing and certification.



The UL certification process

As part of the UL certification process, to verify continued compliance with requirements for the safety and performance of communications cables, UL conducts on-site factory visits. UL's field engineers carry out factory inspections and collect samples for testing at UL's laboratories. We also conduct large-scale fire tests on an annual or semiannual basis. Any noncompliant products are flagged for corrective action, as necessary. Factory sites are visited a minimum of four times a year to maintain UL certification. Additionally, cable is purchased from the U.S. market and tested to determine that the products in the market continue to comply with requirements.

Get started today

To learn more about testing, certification or other services we provide for the telecommunications cabling industry, visit [our website](#).



Empowering Trust[®]