Working for a safer world, UL Standards—the standards development organization (SDO) within Underwriters Laboratories—strives every day to extend our mission, impact and relevance to more regions and countries than ever before. From partnering with other SDOs to fostering education and outreach, you’ll find us collaborating to advance our mission in every corner of the globe.

More impact in more places

International standards help ensure safe, secure and sustainable living and working environments. To create more globally relevant standards, UL Standards’ teams work at the local and regional level in developed and developing countries around the world with staff located in:

- Canada
- India
- China
- Mexico
- Denmark
- Singapore

From this perspective, we can fully understand regional needs and cultural inputs helping to make our standards better. This also helps us to forge important connections with international and regional SDOs.

In addition to providing educational resources—including our Digital View functionality that offers free viewing and total transparency of our standards to global SDOs, other organizations and individuals—we sign memorandums of understanding (MOUs) across borders.

These MOUs formalize working relationships with our partners and foster their adoption of UL Standards with their own national differences or encourage their use as a starting point to develop their own national standard. They also create two-way dialogues and collaboration across organizations, introducing additional global inputs into our standards development process.

We also share our standards with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Standards Organization (ISO) to further their global reach and application.

Uniquely qualified to promote GLOBAL STANDARDS

- 37 countries represented on Standards Technical Panels (STPs)
- 796 unique international members on STPs
- 1,405 total annual international appointments to STPs
- 109 countries accessed Digital View in 2019 and 2020
- 115+ years developing science-based standards
A focus on harmonization

A key driver in our international efforts is to harmonize our standards with other national or regional standards to eliminate inefficiencies and redundancies. This also aligns with the World Trade Organization’s Technical Barriers to Trade principles. Harmonization benefits include:

- Reduced conformity assessment redundancy and compliance costs
- More efficient production
- Reduced trade barriers to foster market access

To learn more, visit UL.org or contact a global standards manager via email at global.standards@ul.org.

Recently, we signed MOUs with more than 17 international partners in regions from the Caribbean and Africa to Asia. Signed MOUs include:

**Standardization Administration of China (SAC)**
- promoting safety through standards regarding hoverboards and similar products

**African Organization for Standardization (ARSO)**
- impacting standards development in 37 ARSO member countries

**Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-IQ)**
- helping industrial bodies develop region-specific standards

**Enterprise Singapore (ESG)**
- addressing emerging areas such as additive manufacturing and smart cities

**CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ)**
- supporting standardization in 15 member nations in the Caribbean

Turning collaboration into results

To promote meaningful, relevant standards, we build partnerships at local and regional levels, immersing ourselves in these cultures. In fact, UL Standards is the first foreign SDO authorized to develop standards in Mexico, and the only SDO able to develop standards for the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Our approach is for stakeholders to build strong, mutually beneficial working relationships with a local UL Standards contact who understands their background, culture and language.

In addition, our team participates with the ISO and IEC on various forums, councils and committees. In addition, a UL Standards team member currently holds the position as US member of the IEC Standardization Management Board.

We share knowledge through workshops, training and roundtables. And when pressing issues arise, we manage them from the ground from countries all around the world.

Most importantly, we bring our values to the forefront, ensuring open dialogue and transparency while inviting a wide group of local stakeholders to contribute to standards development.