Standards
Technical Panels
Consensus-based development of robust standards

Underwriters Laboratories has contributed to a safer, more secure and sustainable world for more than 125 years. UL Standards — the standards development organization (SDO) within Underwriters Laboratories — convenes multidisciplinary stakeholders from around the world who participate in ongoing Standards Technical Panels (STPs).

At the heart of every standard
UL Standards plays a critical role across so many industries and impacts people worldwide. As such, the process to develop effective, timely and globally relevant standards is rigorous, collaborative and fair.

The process begins with the online submission of proposals via our Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS), accessible at CSDS.UL.com. The STP — comprises individuals who represent a variety of interests — then reviews individual proposals; provides input, revisions or feedback; and votes to accept or dismiss the proposal as a new or updated standard.

This approach is vetted by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC). Voting on standards is conducted entirely online to assure transparency and a level playing field for global stakeholders.

We utilize a modified process for the development of Mexican standards in line with the requirements of Mexico’s General Directorate of Standards (DGN).

A proven process
Every STP is consensus-driven. Stakeholders have the opportunity to influence standards’ content, proposing modifications or updates to ensure relevance in the industries and regions they serve. In addition, all proposals are made available for public review and comment.

The quality of this process — refined and improved over the years — is one reason that UL Standards is the only SDO accredited to develop national standards for the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Proposal submitted via CSDS.
Proposal undergoes preliminary review, balloting and public review, comment resolution and potential recirculation of responses to comments and any substantive changes.

If consensus is achieved, the proposal is adopted; if not, the proposal fails — although it may be revised and submitted as a new proposal.

Proposal results in a new/revised standard and is published for global stakeholders.

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Key roles with a singular mission

Each STP consists of a chair and project manager who maintain adherence to the process, along with stakeholders who represent a variety of interests. All invest their time, experience and energy into delivering standards that work toward a safer world.

**STP chair** — Responsible for leading the STP, engaging members and stakeholders and ensuring the process is efficient, effective and timely. The STP Chair is a nonvoting member and typically a UL Standards employee.

**Project manager** — A full-time UL Standards professional dedicated to effective compliance who works closely with the STP Chair and stakeholders/members to process proposals, publish standards documents, maintain the membership roster, and correspond with members. The Project manager is a nonvoting member.

**Members** — Individuals who provide their expertise and a balance of interests toward development or maintenance of a UL Standard. These members provide comments, attend optional meetings, contribute expertise and ultimately vote on proposals as part of the consensus-building process. They represent a variety of categories including: AHJ/Regulator; Producer; Testing and Standards Organization; Supply Chain; Government; Consumer; General Interest; Commercial/Industrial User; and Delegates from National Standards Bodies outside the U.S.

While ANSI procedures call for just three interest groups to participate in standards development, UL Standards allows for up to nine groups. This ensures a broad, diverse group of stakeholders can share their voices on standards modifications and development while reinforcing UL Standards’ transparent and open approach.

Stakeholders are individuals who register in CSDS to receive updates about the development activity for select standards. They do not vote on proposals, but may submit feedback throughout the process.

STP membership is open for interested parties to apply at all times. Bound to rules of balance and representation, membership applications are reviewed and acted upon by the STP chair. UL Standards actively recruits to ensure a greater balance of stakeholders to provide input.

To learn more, visit UL.org or contact UL Standards via UL.org/contact.