General coverage program for luminaires

UL Solutions General Coverage Program is for luminaire and portable lamp manufacturers with products falling under the UL Solutions Follow-Up Services procedures.

Advantages of the General Coverage Program

The UL Solutions General Coverage Program offers approved lighting manufacturers the flexibility to apply UL Marks to a wide range of luminaire sizes and shapes at their factories without having to complete product testing at a UL Solutions facility. The program requires on the manufacturer to understand and design within the scope of certain requirements in the relevant Standards for their products. We combine our selection of certified (UL Listed or Recognized) components for simple pre-selection with specific design parameters and instructions for production-line testing. This program allows manufacturers to offer large catalogs of products built around common platforms that are customized to meet their customer/market preferences.

Manufacturers need to conduct a preliminary investigation with UL Solutions to determine if the products are eligible for general coverage and ensure they have at least one Manufacturer's Technical Representative (MTR). To access the MTR training program and curriculum, visit us online.

If so, the manufacturer conducts mechanical and electrical production line testing on their products. UL Solutions field engineers inspects the results of ongoing factory production tests and label usage during Follow-Up Service visits. When general coverage requirements are met, the manufacturer does not need to send samples to the laboratory for testing. The manufacturer may mark new product that are eligible for general coverage, when they have fulfilled the certification requirements.

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Safety testing and temperature testing

Safety testing of luminaires centers on fire and electric shock and evaluates a product under certain conditions to determine the heat generated in the product or in the final installation. For instance, UL 1598, the Standard for Luminaires, and UL 153, the Standard for Portable Electric Luminaires, define the construction requirements of fluorescent and incandescent luminaires.

Where these conditions are met, no temperature test is required and these products are accepted under the General Coverage Program. For example, chandeliers are typically covered since the distance from the lamps to the ceiling does not affect safety. Exemption from the temperature test does not excuse manufacturers from all safety test requirements.

Examples of General Coverage production line tests for luminaires
- Dielectric test
- Grounding continuity test
- Glass support test
- Strain relief test
- Polarity test

To be sold in North America, lighting products and their related polymeric materials must comply with these ANSI/ UL for the United States and CSA standards for Canada:

- **UL 1598/CSA 250.0 for fluorescent and incandescent luminaires**
- **UL 153/CSA 12 for portable luminaires**

In addition, it is mandatory that all the components used to manufacture UL Certified luminaires, such as lamp holders, ballasts, wiring or terminal blocks, be UL Certified or be a UL Recognized Component.

General Coverage models can be included in the UL Product iQ® database

A UL Mark remains the primary proof of your product's certification, and new General Coverage projects may be eligible to have model numbers added to our database. Product iQ® helps identify products that comply with the applicable safety requirements and verify certifications for thousands of products and components.

Use Product iQ® to promote your products to potential buyers, including thousands of regulatory authorities, building owners and insurance companies.

Product iQ benefits include:
- Differentiation in the market with certification traceability and visibility in the public domain
- Brand exposure via a direct link from Product iQ to your website or specifications page
- Easy proof of compliance with printable certification letters

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