UL Electric Sign Certification and Online Training Programs

UL48 Standard for Electric Signs was first published 95 years ago when incandescent lamps were gaining popularity as illumination sources for signage. Last year, on September 2nd, 2011, UL published the 15th Edition of UL48 to address the most recent changes in sign illumination technology including widespread use of Light-Emitting Diode (LED) light sources. From the simple signs used almost a century ago to today’s sophisticated messaging displays, UL continues to be your expert compliance and safety resource.

Programs in detail

UL 48 Electric Signs — General Coverage Listing Program

This program is for manufacturers of electric signs built in accordance with the National Electric Code (NEC). UL48 Signs are primarily under a General Coverage program. Most UL Listed product programs require a sample to be pre-tested by UL before allowing use of the UL Mark. However, due to the size of many signs and the custom nature, testing a representative sample is not always feasible. Under the Electric Sign General Coverage program the compliance evaluation is conducted onsite, at the convenience of the manufacturer which allows for flexibility in the design of signs.

Energy Efficiency Certification — Signs Verified as Energy Efficient in accordance with CEC, Title 24

UL48 sign manufacturers now have the option to apply the UL Environmental Mark to signs that demonstrate compliance with the California Energy Commission’s Building Efficiency Standard, Title 24. If certified for both CEC and Energy, the UL Safety Mark and the UL Energy Verified Mark will always appear together on the holographic label for signs covered under this new program.

LED Retrofit Signs — Certification Program for Field Installed LED Retrofit Kits

UL provides safety services retrofit sign conversions consisting of subassemblies or kits intended for field installation in Listed signs. Scrolling units (motor-operated message assemblies), devices to change the type of illumination (such as from incandescent to fluorescent), or combinations thereof consist of subassemblies intended for field installation in specific Listed permanently connected electric signs. Light-emitting diode (LED) kits consist of the power source, the LEDs and the LED mounting means necessary to change the type of illumination originally contained in the sign to LED illumination. The kit installation instructions specify the type of sign in which the kit is intended to be installed.

For more information, please contact us by phone at +1.877.ULHELPS (+1.877.854.3577), by email at halquote@ul.com or visit us at ul.com/signs
Changing Message Signs — Listing Program for Safety Certification for use in accordance with the NEC

As sign technology advances, so does UL, providing services for illuminated and non-illuminated changing message signs intended to be installed and connected to an electrical supply source in accordance with the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70.

Illuminated changing message signs include incandescent, fluorescent, HID (high intensity discharge), electric discharge tubing (including neon) LED (light emitting diode), and other sources of illumination.

Non-illuminated changing message signs include scrolling, flipper, LCD (liquid crystal display), and similar types that are generally motor operated or electronically controlled.

Sign Component Manual — Online Directory of UL Recognized Components for use in Electric Signs

The sign component manual is intended to be used by UL manufacturers of electric signs. The manual is also used by UL representatives performing Follow-Up Service inspections. The manual contains recognized sign components and defines the intent and the conditions of acceptability and use for sign components. This document includes neon and LED components and an assortment of other components commonly used in signs.

UL University and Knowledge Services — Workshops and Self-Paced Online Sign Training Programs

UL offers hands on workshops and a full series of courses that cover the UL Listing Program for Signs. Offerings include the basic safety requirements in UL 48 that apply to all signs and the specific requirements in UL 48 that apply to select types of signs, such as neon, LED, fluorescent, incandescent and HID. This curriculum is designed for training of electric sign designers, engineers, construction and assembly staff, specifiers and installers. UL also offers training on the CEC Title 24 Energy Efficient Mark for Electric Signs.

For more information, please contact us by phone at +1.877.ULHELPS (+1.877.854.3577), by email at halquote@ul.com or visit us at ul.com/signs

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