

SEMINAR 301 PART 2:

UL STANDARDS CHANGING

UL 879 Sign Accessories
UL 48 Electric Signs
The STP Process

UL 879 Ed 7 Sign Accessories:

The Standard will now include all the parts and pieces needed to build Listed Electric signs. The parts will now be recognized.

**The Standard is now published as:
ANSI/UL 879-2005**

UL 879 Ed 8: Proposal review was opened on October 20, 2006 to cover a number of proposed changes and editorial corrections needed. Proposal included 17 items or areas that need some attention. Comments are due November 11, 2006. An STP meeting has been called For January 30-31 in Northbrook to deal with 6 of the most controversial issues. (Complete reports on USSC.org/electrical issues)

UL 48 Electric Signs:

UL 48 14th addition is undergoing a complete rewrite and re-organization. The Standard is being re-organized into a compatible format for actual sign production and aligned with the original Bi-National outline.

The Standard UL 48 15th addition was introduced in draft form November 11, 2005 for preliminary review and comment. Comments were due, without vote, or UL response by December 11, 2005

The Standard is currently being rewritten after failing the STP vote due May 23, 2006 on the proposed Standard submitted to the STP for comment and vote on March 24, 2006

An STP meeting was called for August 29-30 2006 in Northbrook, IL to resolve the outstanding issues: (Complete report on USSC.org/Electrical Issues)

1. Definitions (Sec. 2): These include the following:

- (a) Cold Cathode (2.12)
- (b) Electrode Receptacle (2.18)
- (c) GTO Sleeving (2.27)
- (d) Location of Use (2.36)
- (e) Neon Enclosure System (2.39)
- (f) Neon Tubing (2.40)

- (g) Pressure Wire Connector (2.51)
- (h) Raceway (2.53)
- (i) UV (2.76)
- 2. Vent Openings (4.1.3.2.4.2)
- 3. New Metal Thickness Requirements when using Self-Drilling, Threadcutting, and Threadforming Screws (4.1.5.3)
- 4. Portable Sign Requirements (4.1.6.2)
- 5. Use of Integrally Sleeved GTO Cable (4.2.2.4.2)
- 6. Grounding and Bonding Requirements (4.2.4)
- 7. Secondary Circuit Requirements 0-1KV (4.2.5.4)
- 8. Secondary Circuit Requirements >1KV (4.2.5.5)
- 9. Component Mounting Requirements (4.3.1.4)
- 10. Drip Loop Requirement (Fig. 4.12)
- 11. Accessibility of Splice Compartments (4.4.6.1.3)
- 12. Residential Sign Requirements (4.4.8)
- 13. Recessed Sign Requirements (4.4.11)
- 14. Spacings Between Neon Electrode and Accessibility Probe (Table 4.21)
- 15. Exclusion of Water Test Requirements (5.9)

Meeting report was issued September 22, 2006 for review and comment, with comments due October, 23, 2006.

The 15th addition should be out for comment and another STP vote early next year.

Until adoption and an effective date; UL 48 14th addition will still be in effect.

The STP Process:

UL has decided to go with the STP (Standards Technical Panel) as opposed to their advisory groups. This allows the Standard to become an ANSI Standard upon an affirmative STP vote.

The STP membership on the committee has changed as follow:

Supply Chain: (MFG, Sign Co, Distributors)
Commercial/ Industrial User: (User of the product)
General Interest: (Consultants, experts, schools, scientists)

AHJ (Electrical inspectors)

Government: Local, State and Federal agencies)

Testing and Standards Organization: (Testing and certification agencies)

Consumer: (Consumer Organizations)

The categories were expanded to include more interested individuals. Applications are available through the CSDS site. <http://csds.ul.com>

Anyone can provide input and advice to the STP'S through the CSDS Process
You must sign in and get a user name and password. Once you get to the site you can do a STP tutorial, which will walk you through the process.

Once you are in the system you can:

- Submit a proposal request
- Request a new Standard
- Request a change to an existing Standard.
- Provide comments to STP members
- View comments provided

Once you submit a request, your proposals will be looked at for:

1. Being complete.
2. Having substantiation for the change.
3. Once accepted published for all to view your requests.

Your Association has a seat and I have a seat on each of the four STP'S

Information and status is available on our site www.usssc.org electrical issues.