



**Underwriters
Laboratories Inc.®**

Stopping Counterfeiters in Their Tracks

UL ANTI-COUNTERFEITING

Our mission is public safety and we take that responsibility seriously. Because goods with counterfeit UL Marks can be hazardous, UL takes all legal steps possible to prevent products bearing a counterfeit UL Mark from entering the stream of commerce.

Who we are

Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is an independent, not-for-profit product safety certification and standards organization. We have been helping to get safer products to the marketplace since 1894. The familiar UL Mark of safety appears on more than 20 billion products annually.

What we do

Because consumers, retailers, regulators, manufacturers and distributors have come to rely on the UL Mark of safety, we've invested in building a dedicated team of professionals whose sole responsibility is to oversee UL's efforts to protect our intellectual property. Since 1995, this team has worked with law enforcement and educated customs officials globally about how to recognize legitimately UL labeled products as well as implementing anti-counterfeiting measures as an element of UL's Marks.

Why we invest in this work

Many of the counterfeit products entering the global market can directly and dramatically affect the safety of the people who use them. UL practices a zero-tolerance policy regarding counterfeit Marks. UL does not consent to the import, export or reworking of seized merchandise carrying a counterfeit UL Mark. When products bearing a counterfeit UL Mark are discovered, they are confiscated and disposed of in compliance with appropriate U.S. codes and regulations protecting intellectual property.

The cost of product counterfeiting is estimated at \$500 billion (USD) annually, or roughly 5 to 7 percent of global trade.

(continued)

If you encounter a product that you suspect carries a counterfeit UL Mark, please contact us via e-mail at anticounterfeiting@us.ul.com.

How to identify a UL certification Mark

There are four basic elements of a UL certification Mark. Although there may be some variation within the elements, these four elements are commonly present in a legitimate UL certification Mark:

1. UL's registered trademark.
2. The word "Listed" or "Classified".
3. Product identity describing the product.
(NOTE: may be optional if the UL Mark is molded on the product)
4. Proprietary four-digit, alphanumeric control code or issue number, which is a sequence of numbers that may begin with one or two letters.

UL certification Marks may be found on an actual label on a product, or they can be molded, cast, die-stamped or silk-screened onto a product. Often, due to size limitations, the complete, four-element certification Mark cannot be used on a product. In these cases, the complete certification Mark will appear on the smallest unit packaging, with UL's registered trademark included on the product itself.

How to identify products that may not be legitimately UL certified

There are a few situations that may tip you off that you're seeing a product that has not been legitimately certified by UL:

- Any product whose UL marking does not contain the four required elements of the UL certification Mark.
- Any product that references UL on the carton or the product, but has no company name, trademark, trade name or any other designation required for UL certified products.
- Cheap, low-quality workmanship or packaging.
- UL Marks with the letters "UL" side-by-side, missing control or issue numbers, or the words "Approved" or "Pending" instead of "Listed" or "Classified."
- Product packaging with numerous grammatical or spelling errors.
- Legitimately certified products will generally include product manuals providing applicable safety warnings and instructions for use, care and maintenance of the products. Lack of appropriate documentation may be an indicator that a product may not be actually certified by UL.
- Legitimate manufacturers are proud of their products and want to hear from users. They commonly provide a toll-free number, Web site or other information that can be used to report a problem with a product. Lack of such contact information should put you on your guard.