

UL/ULC 1389 Fact Sheet

Standard for Plant Oil Extraction Equipment for Installation and Use in Ordinary (Unclassified) Locations and Hazardous (Classified) Locations

UL/ULC 1389 was published in November, 2019, as the national standard of both the U.S. (ANSI) and Canada (SCC), covering Plant Oil Extraction Equipment for Installation and Use in Ordinary (Unclassified) Locations and Hazardous (Classified) Locations. It was developed under the guidance of STP 1389, a balanced panel of manufacturers, regulators, government agencies, commercial users, inspectors and others, from both the United States and Canada.

Intent and Key Principles

Manufacturers of commercial plant oil extraction equipment have been submitting their products for certification and listing since 2013 to UL Outline of Investigation 1389. In view of the legalization of cannabis in Canada and many states in the US, the existing requirements needed to be updated and upgraded to new technologies and be developed into a joint Canada/US National standard.

Development of the UL/ULC 1389 standard addresses a gap in the Canadian standards system in that there were no Canadian national standards on the subject of plant oil extraction equipment. AHJs and government regulators identified cannabis oil extraction activities as a major concern. UL received support from chief Canadian regulators from Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Quebec.

In addition, the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) endorsed development of a national standard in Canada to meet the needs of Canadian stakeholders. The SCC confirmed that the development of the ANSI/CAN/UL/ULC 1389 standard was supported by Canadian regulators and the new standard would provide a comprehensive consensus based standard covering cannabis oil extraction processes. The development of this standard as a Joint Canada-U.S. National Standard supports SCC's objective of "one standard, one test, one certification, accepted everywhere."

This Standard covers commercial and industrial plant oil extraction equipment for installation and use indoors in ordinary (unclassified) locations and hazardous (classified) locations.

Plant oil extraction equipment includes:

- a) Preparatory equipment, for preparing the plant material for extraction of the oil, such as trimming, deseeding, and drying/curing;
- b) Extractors, for removing the oil from the plant material by the use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), butane, propane solvents,

ethanol or pentane (flammable solvents) and Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) (non-flammable solvent);

c) Extraction booths or pods, for enclosing/protecting plant oil extraction equipment; and

d) Post-processing equipment, for finalizing the plant.

UL/ULC 1389 is referenced in CAN/ULC S4400, Safety of Buildings and Facilities Utilized for the Cultivation, Processing and Production of Cannabis.

Standards Technical Panel membership

The authoring team includes subject matter experts representing manufacturers, regulators, government agencies, commercial users, inspectors and others.

The STP consists of 24 voting members, 9 of whom are Canadian (38%). The STP Chair is Randi Myers, and the STP Project Manager is Mitchell Gold. Organizations and individuals with interest or technical expertise in the subject category are encouraged to apply for membership on the STP. To do so, please contact either Randi.K.Myers@ul.org or Mitchell.Gold@ul.org.

For more information about UL Standards development related to cannabis, please contact Deb Prince at Deborah.Prince@ul.org.

Timeline

January 2019

Formation of balanced STP 1389 including substantial Canadian representation

February 2019

Preliminary review (comment gathering) of UL/ULC 1389 draft

August 2019

Ballot of UL/ULC 1389

November 2019

Publication of 1st Edition of UL/ULC 1389

