ULC Standards Designation Update

April 2022

What is the Change?

To simplify the standards designation, ULC Standards is implementing a new, simplified standards designation leveraging the publication year to demark the latest version of the standard.

Effective immediately, all ULC Standards will be published with a four-digit element (YYYY) marking the year of the most recent publication. A subsequent publication taking place in the same year will be distinguished by a letter (i.e., A, B, C, etc.) after the year element. In addition, new editions will omit the use of the hyphen and the indicator "S" that currently precedes the standard number. Existing ULC Standards publications will retain their present designation until a revision or new edition is published.

New format guide:

CAN/ULC NNN:YYYYA

Where:

CAN is the National Standard of Canada descriptor

ULC is the name of the standards development organization

NNN is the Standard number

YYYY is the publication year

A is the indicator for a subsequent publication in the same year (if applicable)

Why the Change?

Benefits:

- Eliminates the use of revision (rev) numbers and reliance on outdated edition years
- Conveys fresh designation of a standard for every update
- Provides clarity to stakeholders in identifying the most recent version of the standard
- Aligns with the spirit of continuous maintenance of standards

Example

The new designation format conveys information about when a revision, new edition, or reaffirmation takes place to more clearly indicate the newest version, as illustrated in the table below:

Publication Action	Standard Designation
New standard published in 2020 (old designation)	CAN/ULC-S123:2020
Revision published in June 2022 (old designation)	CAN/ULC-S123:2022
New Edition published in April 2023	CAN/ULC 123:2023
Revision published in December 2023	CAN/ULC 123:2023A
Reaffirmation published in 2028	CAN/ULC 123:2023 (R2028)