

Consensus Process

A Unified, Collaborative Approach to Developing Standards

UL Standards & Engagement translates scientific discoveries into standards and policies that have the power to make a systematic impact on public safety throughout the world. To ensure these standards are created professionally and fairly, UL Standards & Engagement employs a rigorous development process with consensus as the prime objective.

A Foundation of Trust

Responsibility for developing and maintaining standards rests with a multidisciplinary group of stakeholders from around the world known as technical committees (TCs).

These groups are guided by a chair and a project manager (nonvoting roles generally held by UL Standards & Engagement staff) and comprise individuals who represent a wide variety of interests.

These include:

- AHJ/Regulator
- Producer
- Testing and Standards Organization
- Supply Chain
- Government
- Consumer
- General Interest
- Commercial/Industrial User
- Delegates from National Standards Bodies outside the U.S.

Anyone can submit proposals online via our Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS). The TC members review these proposals and

provide input, revisions, or feedback—ultimately voting to accept or deny the proposal as a new standard or part of a revision to an existing standard.

Consensus is at the heart of our process—ensuring the committee operates in a fair, collaborative and transparent manner that allows for decisions to be made by this diverse range of participants from different regions and interest groups. Unanimity is not required for a proposal to pass; consensus among voting members is the threshold. In addition, all proposals are made available for public review and comment on CSDS.

Approved by Respected Standards Organizations

UL Standards & Engagement's consensus process is approved and audited regularly as part of our accreditation by national organizations, including the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and authorization by the Dirección General de Normas (DGN) of the Ministry of Economy in Mexico.

Two Key Steps in Our Consensus Process

UL Standard & Engagement's consensus-based standards are published only after two key requirements have been met.

First, **a majority** of the TC members have returned a ballot.

Second, **at least two-thirds** of those voting members approve the standard, excluding abstentions, negatives based on material not under construction.

This criteria ensures the standard has been properly considered and definitively approved.

NOTE: While the principles of transparency, accessibility and consensus are common to the various national accreditation bodies within which UL Standards & Engagement operates, there are some differences in, for example, how minimum consensus requirements are calculated. For further information concerning requirements in a specific country, consult the relevant national standards body: ANSI, DGN, or SCC.



Rigor and Collaboration

UL Standards & Engagement's approach to formulating consensus-based standards is a rigorous and thorough process designed to develop requirements that address the concerns of all stakeholders.

The process is vetted by ANSI, SCC, and DGN to ensure the interests of key stakeholder groups are represented in the standards development process. Audits by these respected international bodies reinforces our transparent, open approach to standards development.

A Comprehensive Approach

Voting on standards is typically conducted entirely online while, if possible, virtual and in-person meetings are also an option to assure discussion and knowledge sharing. Collaboration, iteration and ongoing dialogue allow

the members of our TCs to look at proposed standards from all angles so that every standard is analyzed and vetted for quality and clarity.

UL Standards & Engagement actively recruits qualified participants to ensure that diverse perspectives are heard and to meet requirements for balance and representation.

In addition, to ensure fairness and independence in the consensus process, UL Standards & Engagement staff participating on TCs as chair or project manager do not have a vote. If a representative of UL Solutions is a TC member, the company receives one vote per ballot—consistent with all other members, including other testing/certification organizations.

To learn more, visit ULSE.org or contact UL Standards & Engagement via ULSE.org/contact.

Making a Difference Worldwide

Our consensus process is a key driver for our position as the only standards development organization able to develop national standards for the US, Canada and Mexico.

- Our process has contributed to more than 1,800 standards and other documents on safety, security and sustainability
- Approximately 4,000 individuals serve on our 1,500 TCs from over 40 countries.
- CSDS has more than 50,000 registered users who can contribute to the consensus process through providing proposals or comments or by serving on a TC.
- UL standards are cited in codes and other regulatory documents around the world based on their validity as consensus-based requirements rooted in safety science.