

UL, CUL, CSA, ETL, ISO and/or ANSI: What's difference?

If you look on our products and packaging, you'll see a certification mark or logo such as UL, CUL, CSA, ETL, ISO and/or ANSI. What do these certification marks mean? Basically they are stamps of approval.

stophazard. products with these logos meet rigorous standards for quality and safety performance. The acronyms are spelled out below:

UL : Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

CUL : Underwriters Laboratories Canada Inc.

: Canadian Standards Association

ETL : Originally a mark of ETL Testing Laboratories, now a mark of Intertek Testing Services.

ISO : International Organization for Standardization

ANSI : American National Standards Institute



CSA

In operation for more than a century, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. is an independent nonprofit organization that writes, tests and certifies products for safety. UL has developed more than 800 standards for safety, and millions of products and their component are tested to UL's requirements. As a result, consumers live in a safer environment. UL's Standards for Safety are essential to helping insure public safety and improve product quality. Information about UL standards can be found at http://ulstandardsinfonet.ul.com.



Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada (UL Canada) is an independent nonprofit organization that writes and tests products for safety. ULC has tested products for public safety for more than 80 years and is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada, under the National Standards System. Information about CUL standards can be found at http://ulc.ca



The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) is a nonprofit association serving business, industry, government and consumers in Canada and the global marketplace. Among many other activities, CSA develops standards that enhance public safety. A Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory, CSA is very familiar with U.S. requirements. According to OSHA regulations, the CSA-US Mark qualifies as an alternative to the UL Mark. Information about CSA standards can be found at http://csa.ca.



The ETL Listed Mark is an alternative to the CSA and UL marks. ETL (Edison Testing Laboratories) has been conducting performance and reliability tests since 1896. Intertek Testing Services (ITS) acquired ETL from Inchcape in 1996. ITS is recognized by OSHA as a nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL), just as Underwriter Laboratories (UL), Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and several other independent organizations are recognized. ITS tests products according to nearly 200 safety and performance standards. The ETL Listed Mark and C-ETL Listed Mark are accepted throughout the United states and Canada when denoting compliance with nationally recognized – standards such as ANSI.IEC,UL and CSA.



ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is the world's largest developer and publisher of International Standards.

ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 162 countries, one member per country, with a Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, that coordinates the system.

ISO is a non-governmental organization that forms a bridge between the public and private sectors. On the one hand, many of its member institutes are part of the governmental structure of their countries, or are mandated by their government. On the other hand, other members have their roots uniquely in the private sector, having been set up by national partnerships of industry associations.

Therefore, ISO enables a consensus to be reached on solutions that meet both the requirements of business and the broader needs of society.

Because "International Organization for Standardization" would have different acronyms in different languages ("IOS" in English, "OIN" in French for Organisation internationale de normalisation), its founders decided to give it also a short, all-purpose name. They chose "ISO", derived from the Greek isos, meaning "equal". Whatever the country, whatever the language, the short form of the organization's name is always ISO



ANSI is the acronym for the American National Standards Institute, a nonprofit organization that serves as administrator of the United States private sector voluntary standardization system. The primary objective of ANSI is to promote and facilitate voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment system. ANSI does not have authority to enforce such standards are used by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to be sure that certain safety devices, such as eyewear, provide adequate protection for workers.

