

Subject 1261

July 14, 2017

SUMMARY OF TOPICS

The following changes in requirements to the Standard for Safety for Electric Water Heaters for Pools and Tubs, UL 1261, are being proposed:

1. Proposal to clarify button or coin cell batteries of lithium technologies requirements

STP BALLOTS AND ALL COMMENTS DUE: August 14, 2017

UL's goal is to have no interest category comprise more than one-third of the STP membership balance. To improve the current balance for STP 1261, UL is looking for participants. Definitions for interest categories are available on the Standards STP Internet site:

<http://ulstandards.ul.com/develop-standards/participation/interest-categories/>

If you are interested in applying for STP 1261 membership or are aware of potential candidates for this STP, please contact the STP Project Manager, Megan.Monsen@ul.com.

For your convenience in review, proposed additions to existing requirements are shown underlined and proposed deletions are shown ~~lined-out~~.

1. Proposal to clarify button or coin cell batteries of lithium technologies requirements

RATIONALE

Proposal submitted by: Gary Siggins, UL LLC.

Construction requirements for units that contain coin cell batteries were recently added to UL 1261. This was to provide proper containment of the batteries as the National Capital Poison Center (NCPC) has reported an increase in the number of incidents involving small children ingesting small lithium batteries in the "button/coin" configuration.

The text in UL 1261 has an exception to the application of UL 4200A where the battery is not intended to be replaced and is not referenced in instructions or markings. After further consideration of the matter UL believes this exception is not necessary and might be misinterpreted. Exceptions concerning the applicability of UL 4200A are already in that standard. Also the exception might be interpreted to mean that UL 4200A is not applicable to a portable remote control with coin cells that was not intended to be opened. This is not the case. The drop test of Section 6.3 would still be applicable to verify containment of the batteries.

UL therefore proposes the Exception to 4.12 be deleted to clarify the intent of the requirement. Also, as this requirement is related to the enclosure requirements and is not the specification of a component, UL proposes the coin cell battery requirements be moved to Section 5.

PROPOSAL

4.12 Button or coin cell batteries of lithium technologies

~~4.12.1 The battery compartment of an appliance or any accessory, such as a wireless control, incorporating one or more coin cell batteries of lithium technologies shall comply with the Standard for Products Incorporating Button or Coin Cell Batteries of Lithium Technologies, UL 4200A, if the appliance or any accessory:~~

- ~~a) Is intended for use with one or more single cell batteries having a diameter of 32 mm (1.25 in) maximum with a diameter greater than its height; and~~
- ~~b) The appliance is intended for household use.~~

~~Exception: UL 4200A is not applicable to appliances and accessories intended for use where the battery is not intended to be replaced and is not referenced in instructions and markings.~~

5.7 Button or coin cell batteries of lithium technologies

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