

UL 1363

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Relocatable Power Taps

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UL Standard for Safety for Relocatable Power Taps, UL 1363

Second Edition, Dated December 12, 1996

Revisions: This Standard contains revisions through and including July 27, 2004.

Summary of Topics

These revisions to UL 1363 include new requirements for Relocatable Power Taps (RTPs) employing hospital grade components.

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The following table lists the future effective dates with the corresponding reference.

Future Effective Dates	References
July 27, 2005	Paragraphs 1.9, 38.13 – 38.16, Section 34B, and Section 39
January 27, 2006	Paragraphs 38.12

The new requirements are substantially in accordance with UL's Bulletin(s) on this subject dated October 20, 2003 and April 6, 2004. The bulletin(s) is now obsolete and may be discarded.

The revisions dated July 27, 2004 include a reprinted title page (page1) for this Standard.

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The requirements in this Standard are now in effect, except for those paragraphs, sections, tables, figures, and/or other elements of the Standard having future effective dates as indicated in the note following the affected item. The prior text for requirements that have been revised and that have a future effective date are located after the Standard, and are preceded by a "SUPERSEDED REQUIREMENTS" notice.

New product submittals made prior to a specified future effective date will be judged under all of the requirements in this Standard including those requirements with a specified future effective date, unless the applicant specifically requests that the product be judged under the current requirements. However, if the applicant elects this option, it should be noted that compliance with all the requirements in this Standard will be required as a condition of continued Listing, Recognition, and Follow-Up Services after the effective date, and understanding of this should be signified in writing.

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This Standard consists of pages dated as shown in the following checklist:

Page	Date
1-6A	July 27, 2004
6B	April 23, 1997
7	December 12, 1996
8	April 23, 1997
8A	October 24, 2001
8B	April 23, 1997
9-12A	October 24, 2001
12B	August 24, 1999
13	April 23, 1997
14-15	October 16, 1998
16	July 27, 2004
16A-16B	February 11, 2000
17-18	August 24, 1999
19-20	December 12, 1996
21-22	October 14, 1997
22A-25	October 16, 1998
26-28	April 23, 1997
29	December 12, 1996
30-31	April 23, 1997
32	December 12, 1996
33-34B	October 14, 1997
35	April 23, 1997
36-36B	July 27, 2004
37-40	December 12, 1996
41-42	July 27, 2004
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No Text on This Page

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1

UL 1363

Standard for Relocatable Power Taps

The first edition was titled Temporary Power Taps.

First Edition – June, 1991

Second Edition

December 12, 1996

An effective date included as a note immediately following certain requirements is one established by Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

Revisions of this Standard will be made by issuing revised or additional pages bearing their date of issue. A UL Standard is current only if it incorporates the most recently adopted revisions, all of which are itemized on the transmittal notice that accompanies the latest set of revised requirements.

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No Text on This Page

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1 Scope	5
2 General	6
2.1 Components	6
2.2 Units of measurement	6
2.3 Undated references	6
3 Glossary	6A

CONSTRUCTION

4 General	6A
5 Enclosure	7
5.1 General	7
5.2 Metallic	7
5.3 Nonmetallic	7
6 Mechanical Assembly	8
6A Accessibility of Live Parts	8
7 Temporary Mounting Means	8B
8 Corrosion Protection	9
9 Insulating Materials	9
10 Power-Supply Cord	10
10.1 General	10
10.2 Bushings	10A
11 Strain Relief	10A
12 Receptacles	10A
13 Supplementary Protection	10B
14 Switches	12
15 Live Parts	13
16 Internal Wiring	13
17 Spacings	14
18 Printed-Wiring Boards	15
19 Separation of Circuits	15
20 Grounding	15
20.1 General	15
20.2 Bonding	16A

PERFORMANCE

21 General	16A
22 Temperature Test	17
23 Dielectric Voltage-Withstand Test	18
24 Leakage Current Test	19
24.1 General	19
24.2 Leakage current after humidity conditioning	22
25 Grounding Continuity Test	22
26 Fault Current Test	22A
26.1 General	22A
26.2 Calibration of test circuits	23
27 Grounding Contact Test	

28	Overcurrent Test	24
29	Mounting Hole Barrier Tests	25
29.1	General	25
29.2	Mounting hole barrier impact test	25
29.3	Mounting hole barrier probe test	25
30	Strain Relief Test	30
31	Impact Tests	30
31.1	General	30
31.2	Drop impact test	30
31.3	Steel sphere impact test	30
31.4	Low-temperature steel sphere impact test	31
32	Crushing Test	34
33	Adequacy of Mounting Test	34
34	Mold Stress-Relief Distortion Test	35
34A	Spill Test	36
34B	Permanence of Cord Tag Test	36A
34B.1	General	36A
34B.2	Conditioning	36A
34B.3	Test Method	36B

MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION-LINE TESTS

35	Dielectric Voltage-Withstand Test	36B
36	Grounding Continuity Test	38

RATINGS

37	Details	38
----	---------------	----

MARKINGS

38	Details	38
----	---------------	----

INSTRUCTIONS

APPENDIX A

Standards for Components	A1
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No Text on This Page

UL 1363 2004

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover cord-connected, relocatable power taps rated 250 V AC or less and 20 A AC or less. A relocatable power tap is intended only for indoor use as a temporary extension of a grounding alternating-current branch circuit for general use.

1.1 revised December 12, 1996

1.2 A cord-connected product with less than three receptacle outlets that employs an electromagnetic interference filter or a transient voltage surge suppressor is covered under the Standard for Electromagnetic Interference Filters, UL 1283, and the Standard for Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors, UL 1449, respectively.

1.3 A cord-connected product with three or more receptacle outlets that employs an electromagnetic interference filter shall also comply with the Standard for Electromagnetic Interference Filters, UL 1283. A cord-connected product with three or more receptacle outlets that employs a transient voltage surge suppressor shall also comply with the Standard for Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors, UL 1449.

1.4 Telephone equipment and communication circuit protectors included in a relocatable power tap shall comply with the requirements in the Standard for Telephone Equipment, UL 1459, and the requirements in the Standard for Secondary Protectors for Communications Circuits, UL 497A, respectively.

1.5 A relocatable power tap that incorporates an antenna discharge unit or provides antenna connections to a television, a high-voltage video product, or antenna shall comply with the applicable requirements in the Standard for Antenna Discharge Units, UL 452, and the Standard for Television Receivers and High-Voltage Video Products, UL 1410.

1.6 A cord-connected product that employs ground-fault protection is investigated under the requirements in the Standard for Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters, UL 943.

1.7 Deleted October 24, 2001

1.8 A cord-connected Relocatable Power Tap is not intended to be connected to another cord-connected Relocatable Power Tap.

1.8 added July 27, 2004

1.9 This standard does not cover RPTs intended for use with medical equipment. Medical equipment is typically intended for use in General Patient Care Areas or Critical Patient Care Areas as defined by Article 517 of the National Electrical Code for Health Care Facilities. RPTs intended for such use shall comply with the requirements of the Standard for Safety of Medical Electrical Equipment, Part 1: General Requirements, UL 60601-1 and the Standard for Safety Requirements for Medical Electrical Systems, IEC 60601-1-1.

Added 1.9 effective July 27, 2005

2 General

2.1 Components

2.1.1 Except as indicated in 2.1.2, a component of a product covered by this standard shall comply with the requirements for that component. See Appendix A for a list of standards covering components used in the products covered by this standard.

2.1.1 revised October 24, 2001

2.1.2 A component is not required to comply with a specific requirement that:

- a) Involves a feature or characteristic not required in the application of the component in the product covered by this standard, or
- b) Is superseded by a requirement in this standard.

2.1.2 revised October 24, 2001

2.1.3 A component shall be used in accordance with its rating established for the intended conditions of use.

2.1.3 revised October 24, 2001

2.1.4 Specific components are incomplete in construction features or restricted in performance capabilities. Such components are intended for use only under limited conditions, such as certain temperatures not exceeding specified limits, and shall be used only under those specific conditions.

2.1.4 revised October 24, 2001

2.2 Units of measurement

2.2.1 Values stated without parentheses are the requirement. Values in parentheses are explanatory or approximate information.

2.2.2 Unless otherwise indicated, all voltage and current values mentioned in this standard are root-mean-square (rms).

2.3 Undated references

2.3.1 Any undated reference to a code or standard appearing in the requirements of this standard shall be interpreted as referring to the latest edition of that code or standard.

2.3.1 revised October 24, 2001

3 Glossary

3.1 MEANS FOR TEMPORARY MOUNTING – A mounting method that does not require the use of tools for mounting or dismounting the relocatable power tap and conceals the head of a screw or other fastener so that it cannot be tightened after the relocatable power tap is mounted.

3.2 OVERCURRENT PROTECTION (OCP) DEVICE – A supplementary protection device provided within a RPT that provides overcurrent and short-circuit protection. It is not intended to be a substitute for branch circuit protection.

3.2 revised April 23, 1997

3.3 RELOCATABLE POWER TAP (RPT) – A relocatable power tap consists of an attachment plug cap and a length of flexible cord terminated in an enclosure in which are mounted one or more receptacles. A relocatable power tap may be provided with suitable supplementary overcurrent protection, switches, and indicator lights singly or in any combination. A relocatable power tap containing three or more receptacles may also employ a transient voltage surge suppressor (TVSS) and/or an electromagnetic interference (EMI) filter.

3.4 SUPPLEMENTARY PROTECTION DEVICE – A device intended for use as overcurrent, over-temperature, or over- or under-voltage protection within a RPT where branch circuit overcurrent protection is already provided.

3.4 added April 23, 1997

CONSTRUCTION

4 General

4.1 Only materials that are suitable for the particular use shall be used in a RPT.

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5 Enclosure

5.1 General

5.1.1 The enclosure shall be formed and assembled so that it has the strength and rigidity required to resist the abuses to which it is subjected, without resulting in a risk of fire, electric shock, or injury to persons, due to total or partial collapse with resulting reduction of spacings, loosening or displacement of parts or other serious defects.

5.1.2 The enclosure shall not have any openings or knockouts that are capable of being used for permanent mounting or connection to a permanent wiring system. See Temporary Mounting Means, Section 7.

5.1.3 An opening in an enclosure shall have such size and shape – or shall be so covered by screening or barrier or by an expanded, perforated, or louvered panel – that a test rod having a maximum diameter of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) shall be prevented from contacting live parts.

5.1.4 A keyhole slot, notch, or similar means for temporary mounting, when provided, shall be located so that the supporting screws or the like cannot damage any electrical insulation or reduce spacings to live parts.

5.1.5 A barrier that covers a mounting hole and thereby forms part of the required enclosure shall be subjected to the Mounting Hole Barrier Tests, Section 29.

5.2 Metallic

5.2.1 A metal enclosure of a RPT shall have a minimum thickness in accordance with Table 5.1.

Table 5.1
Minimum thicknesses of enclosure metal

Metal	At small, flat unreinforced surfaces and at surfaces of a shape or size to provide adequate mechanical strength,		At relatively larger unreinforced flat surfaces,	
	inch	(mm)	inch	(mm)
Die-cast metal	3/64	1.2	5/64	2.0
Cast malleable iron	1/16	1.6	3/32	2.4
Other cast metal	3/32	2.4	1/8	3.2
Uncoated sheet steel	0.026	0.66	0.026	0.66
Galvanized sheet steel	0.029	0.74	0.029	0.74
Nonferrous sheet metal	0.036	0.91	0.036	0.91

5.3 Nonmetallic

5.3.1 A polymeric enclosure shall comply with the flammability requirements in the Standard for Polymeric Materials – Use in Electrical Equipment Evaluations, UL 746C, for non-attended, non-intermittent duty portable equipment.

5.3.2 The enclosure shall comply with the strain relief, impact, crush and mold stress-relief test requirements of Sections 30, 31, 32 and 34 respectively, of this Standard.

6 Mechanical Assembly

6.1 A RPT shall be formed and assembled so as to reduce the risk of contact with any sharp edges, fins, burrs or the like that are capable of increasing the risk of injury to persons, or abrade the insulation on conductors or otherwise damage wires.

6.2 A switch, a lampholder, a power-supply cord and its strain-relief bushing, receptacle, or similar component shall be mounted securely and, except as noted in 6.3 and 6.4, shall be restrained from turning. See 6.5.

6.3 The requirement that a switch be restrained from turning is capable of being waived when all of the following conditions are met:

- a) The switch is to be of the plunger or other type whose actuator does not tend to rotate when operated (the actuator of a toggle or rocker switch is considered to be subject to forces that tend to turn the switch during operation of the switch).
- b) The means of mounting the switch makes it unlikely that operation of the switch loosens it.
- c) The spacings are not to be reduced below the minimum acceptable values when the switch rotates.

6.4 A lampholder of a type in which the lamp is not intended to be replaced, such as a neon pilot or indicator light in which the lamp is sealed in a nonremovable jewel, is not required to be restrained from turning when the rotation is not capable of reducing spacings below the minimum acceptable values.

6.5 The means by which the turning specified in 6.2 is prevented is to include more than friction between surfaces. For example, a lockwasher, properly applied, is not prohibited from being used as a means to restrain turning of a device having a single-hole mounting means.

6A Accessibility of Live Parts

6A.1 The electrical parts of a RPT that do not require use of a tool for access shall be located or enclosed so that persons are protected against inadvertent contact with uninsulated live parts and film-coated magnet wire.

6A.1 added April 23, 1997

6A.2 An opening in the enclosure of a RPT is not prohibited when an uninsulated live part or film-coated magnet wire is not capable of being contacted by the probe shown in Figure 6A.1. The probe shall be applied to any depth that the opening permits, and shall be rotated or angled before, during, and after insertion through the opening to any position that is required to examine the enclosure. The probe shall be applied in any possible configuration; and, when required, the configuration shall be changed after insertion through the opening.

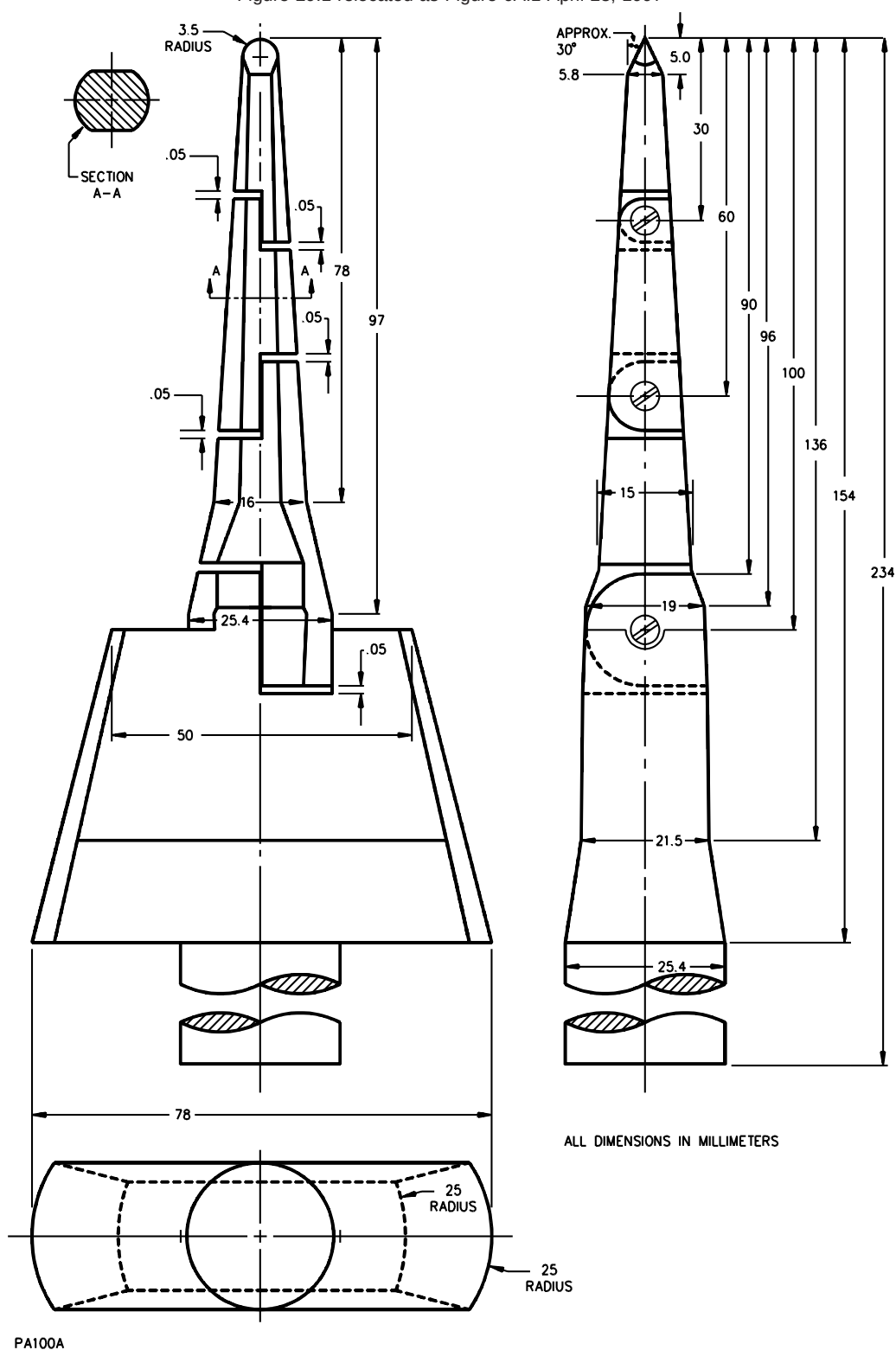
6A.2 added April 23, 1997

6A.3 The probe shall be used as a measuring instrument to evaluate the accessibility provided by an opening, and not as an instrument to evaluate the strength of a material; it shall be applied with the minimum force required to determine accessibility.

6A.3 added April 23, 1997

Figure 6A.1
Accessibility probe

Figure 29.1 relocated as Figure 6A.1 April 23, 1997



PA100A

7 Temporary Mounting Means

7.1 A RPT may be provided with a means for temporary mounting. A tool shall not be required to dismount a RPT.

7.2 A means for temporary mounting shall provide for secure positioning that requires a positive, deliberate action by the user to dismount it.

7.3 A keyhole slot, notch, or similar means for temporary mounting, shall be located so that the screw head, nail head, hook, or other supporting device is not accessible for further securing of the RPT once it is mounted.

Exception: A temporary mounting means that does not comply with the above requirement is capable of being used when investigated for the purpose.

7.4 When a temporary mounting means is provided, installation instructions shall be furnished with the product. When the mounting means requires special hardware, to comply with the requirements in the Adequacy of Mounting Test, Section 33, or 7.1 – 7.3, the hardware shall be provided with the product.

Exception: Installation instructions are not required to be furnished when it is determined that the mounting means is obvious.

7.5 The temporary mounting means shall comply with the requirements in 5.1.4 and Sections 29 and 33.

7.6 An RPT intended to be mounted on a desk or similar furnishing surface shall comply with the requirements in 12.5 and Section 34A.

Added 7.6 effective October 24, 2002

8 Corrosion Protection

8.1 Iron and steel parts or other parts not inherently corrosion resistant shall be protected against corrosion by painting, enameling, galvanizing, plating, or other equivalent means.

Exception: Minor parts of iron or steel, such as washers, screws and the like that are not in the grounding conductor path are not required to comply with this requirement.

9 Insulating Materials

9.1 A barrier or integral part, such as an insulating washer or bushing, and a base or support for the mounting of live parts, shall be of a moisture-resistant material that will not be damaged by the temperature and stresses to which it will be subjected under conditions of actual use.

9.2 An insulating material is to be investigated with regard to its acceptability for the application in accordance with the Standard for Polymeric Materials – Use in Electrical Equipment Evaluations, UL 746C. Materials, such as mica, ceramic, or some molded compounds are capable of being used as the sole support of live parts. When it is required to investigate a material to determine its acceptability, consideration is to be given to such factors as its mechanical strength, resistance to ignition sources, dielectric strength, insulation resistance, and heat-resistant properties in both the aged and unaged conditions, the degree to which it is enclosed, and any other features affecting the risk of fire and electric shock.

9.3 Vulcanized fiber, industrial laminates, polymeric films or similar materials are capable of being used for insulating bushings, washers, separators, and barriers, but not as sole support for uninsulated live parts. Hard rubber is not to be used.

Exception: Industrial laminates that have been investigated for the purpose are capable of being used as sole support for uninsulated live parts.

10 Power-Supply Cord

10.1 General

10.1.1 The power-supply cord shall be of the grounding type and shall employ one of the following flexible cord Types: SJ, SJE, SJO, SJT, SJTO, or equivalent.

Exception: SPT-3 is not prohibited from being used on a RPT rated 15 A or less when marked in accordance with 38.11.

10.1.2 A detachable power-supply cord shall not be used.

10.1.3 The minimum conductor size of the power-supply cord shall be as indicated in Table 10.1.

10.1.4 The length of a power-supply cord – as measured from the outside surface of the enclosure of the RPT to the plane of the face of the attachment plug – shall not exceed 25 ft (7.62 m) nor be less than 1.5 ft (0.46 m).

10.1.5 A power-supply cord shall have a voltage rating not less than the rated voltage of the RPT and have an ampacity not less than the current rating of the RPT.

Table 10.1
Guide to construction and performance requirements for relocatable power taps

Revised Table 10.1 effective February 28, 2001

Relocatable power tap rating (A)	Minimum power cord size (AWG)	Number of receptacles	Supplementary OCP required?	Supplementary OCP rating ^a (A)	Temperature test load (A)	Minimum internal wiring size ^b (AWG)
20	12	<6	NO	20 ^c	20	12
20	12	≥6	YES	20	20	12
15	14	<4	NO	15 ^c	15	14
15	14	≥4	YES ^h	15	15	14
<15	14	<4	NO	15 ^{c,e}	15 ^{f,g}	14
<15	14	≥4	YES	15 ^e	OCP ^g	14

^a OCP shall not trip when the RPT is operated at the RPT marked rated current.

^b Smaller AWG is not prohibited from being used when an OCP is provided and the results of the Temperature Test (Section 22), the Fault Current Test (Section 26), and the Overcurrent Test (Section 28) comply with the requirements of those tests using the smaller AWG wire.

^c When provided with an OCP.

^d Deleted

^e Maximum rating. An OCP rated less than 15 A and not less than the RPT rating complies with the intent of this requirement. See note (a) above.

^f Test is capable of being conducted at OCP rating when provided.

^g When the OCP rating is greater than the RPT rating, conduct the Temperature Test at the OCP rating. The OCP is not prohibited from being bypassed when nuisance tripping occurs. See 22.3.

Table 10.1 Continued

Relocatable power tap rating (A)	Minimum power cord size (AWG)	Number of receptacles	Supplementary OCP required?	Supplementary OCP rating ^a (A)	Temperature test load (A)	Minimum internal wiring size ^b (AWG)
^h An OCP is not required for a 15 A RPT with four receptacles as long as: a) Internal wiring is 12 AWG; b) The power-supply cord is 12 AWG; c) All other components are evaluated for use at 20 A; and d) The Temperature Test load is 20 A.						

10.1.6 The power-supply cord shall not include a through-cord switch.

10.2 Bushings

10.2.1 Where the power-supply cord passes through an opening in the enclosure, a smooth, well-rounded surface shall be provided to protect the cord from damage.

11 Strain Relief

11.1 Strain relief shall be provided so that a mechanical stress on a power-supply cord is not transmitted to terminals, splices, or interior wiring. See Strain Relief Test, Section 30.

11.2 The strain relief means shall not damage the insulation or cord jacket. The normal compressive deformation inherent in providing strain relief is not considered to be damage.

12 Receptacles

12.1 The receptacle outlets of a RPT shall have a current rating of 15 or 20 A and a voltage rating of 125 or 250 V. The contact components of a receptacle shall have a voltage and current rating equal to that of the attachment plug on the power-supply cord.

Exception: A 15 A receptacle is not prohibited from being used with a RPT rated 20 A with a 20 A attachment plug.

12.2 All of the receptacle outlets of a RPT shall have the same current rating and shall be of the grounding type. They are not prohibited from being of the same or different slot configurations (locking and non-locking).

12.3 The receptacle outlets of a RPT shall comply with the applicable requirements in the Standard for Attachment Plugs and Receptacles, UL 498. Each receptacle outlet provided in a RPT that is either equipped with temporary mounting means or intended for use in a fixed application, and having the configuration specified in Figure C1.5 of the Standard for Wiring Device Configurations, UL 1681, shall comply with the requirements of the Grounding Contact Test in UL 498.

Effective date for 12.3 changed from October 23, 1998 to February 28, 2001