Subjects 2442 (1678)
(In reply, refer to Subject 2442)

12 Laboratory Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
November 5, 2004

TO: **Standards Technical Panel (STP) for Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories, STP 2442**
Subscribers to UL's Standards Service for Household, Commercial, and Professional-Use Carts and Stands for Use with Audio/Video Equipment
Other Interested Parties

SUBJECT: **Report of the Meeting of the Standards Technical Panel of UL for Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories, STP 2442;**

Summary of Topics

The following topics were discussed at the meeting:

1) Regulations Governing UL's Standards Technical Panels

2) Discussion on the Scope of the Standard

3) Discussion on the Resolution of Comments Received During STP Preliminary Review

COMMENTS DUE: December 6, 2004

A meeting of the Standards Technical Panel of UL for Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories was held on October 5th and 6th, 2004 at UL's Northbrook Office. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss comments received during the preliminary review by the STP of the Proposed First Edition of the Standard for Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories, UL 2442.

Attached as Appendix A is the report of the STP meeting. Attached as Appendix B are the proposed comment dispositions from the preliminary STP review of UL 2442 as concurred by STP members present at the meeting. Attached as Appendix C is information regarding Working Groups. Attached as Appendix D is a list of those who attended the meeting. Questions regarding interpretation of requirements should be directed to the responsible UL Staff.

Comments on this meeting report should be made in writing and may be sent by fax to (919) 547-6105 or by mail to the attention of Patricia Sena at UL's Research Triangle Park office. Comments may also be sent via E-mail to Patricia.A.Sena@us.ul.com. Please reference all correspondence to Subject 2442. Note all comments received are public and may be circulated to others. If you respond by fax or E-mail, please include your full name and company name and address to ensure a reply.

ALL COMMENTS DUE: DECEMBER 6, 2004

Unless specifically requested to do so, UL will not acknowledge comments indicating concurrence with this report.

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APPENDIX A

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS TECHNICAL PANEL FOR UL 2442

The following report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript of the discussion at the meeting, but is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The STP Chair emphasized that unlike UL's traditional method of Standards development where Industry's involvement was advisory in nature, the STP process is consensus based. As such, UL does not make the final decision but rather has a vote in the consensus process.

An STP Member expressed concern that attendance is not required for STP meetings. The Member indicated that there may be a situation where voting occurs after a comment resolution meeting and those members who did not attend the meeting are voting without the benefit of hearing all of the issues discussed at the meeting. It was noted that other organizations have requirements for members to attend a minimum number of meetings.

While this policy is intended to benefit those members who do not have funding to attend meetings, UL noted that it would take this suggestion back to the appropriate management in the Standards Department for consideration. It was also mentioned that with the implementation of UL's Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS), STP members will be able to see all comments and any added discussions to a comment before a meeting is even determined to be necessary.

The STP Project Manager noted that STP members should have recently received the official notification for CSDS and reminded members that the system is scheduled to ″GO LIVE″ on October 29, 2004.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections or additions made to the agenda in addition to those provided to STP members and invited guests via e-mail prior to the meeting. These additional agenda items correspond to Items 47 – 50 of the comment matrix included in this report.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA TOPICS

1) Regulations Governing UL's Standards Technical Panels

As this was the first meeting of the 2442 STP, the STP Project Manager delivered a presentation on the Regulations Governing UL's STPs. Highlights of the presentation include the following:

•The STP Process is a method of developing and maintaining UL/ANSI Standards where each proposed revision goes through the consensus process before it is adopted and published.

•The STP serves as the consensus body that votes on proposals and consists of members representing three categories: Producers, Users, and General Interest. UL strives for each of the interest groups to have equal representation.

•The STP Project Manager is in most cases a UL Standards Department staff person and is responsible for formatting drafts in accordance with UL guidelines, maintaining STP membership rosters, coordinating the activities of proposals, meeting reports, and ballots with the STP, and is classified as a non-voting member of the STP.

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•The STP Chair is a UL Global Standards Department staff person and is responsible for appointing new members, maintaining balance on the STP, reviewing all submitted proposals to determine how the proposals will be processed, reviewing all STP correspondence, guiding provisional ANSI requirements through the internal approval process before involving the STP, and is classified as a non-voting member of the STP.

•The steps in the STP process can be summarized as follows:

UL (or others) submit proposal(s)

Hold STP meeting (optional)

Conduct preliminary review and comment on proposal(s) (optional)

Conduct STP comment/balloting of proposal(s) (minimum 30 days)

Conduct public and subscriber review of proposal(s)

Review comments and ballots, respond and recirculate comments and continuing negative ballots to the STP to give them opportunity to change their vote, at the same time notify objectors of their right to appeal

Conduct appeal hearing, if necessary

If consensus is not achieved, the proposal is considered as failing and no further action is required

If consensus is achieved, publish as an ANSI standard

•Consensus is defined as meeting the following 2 criteria:

1) Returned ballots by a majority of the STP, and

2) Approval by at least 2/3 of those who have submitted a vote, excluding abstentions, negatives without comment, and negatives based on material not under consideration.

•When considered a critical safety issue and approved by the Chief Engineer, expedited, limited consensus requirements can be included in the ANSI/UL Standard as provisional ANSI requirements. Such requirements are required to undergo the full consensus process within 45 days.

•STP Meetings are open. Guests and Observers are welcome if prior approval is obtained. Attendance at meetings is not a requirement for membership. All final balloting is via correspondence. Meetings are to discuss proposals or to resolve comments. Issues unrelated to standards proposals can be discussed but should be done either before or after the meeting. Voting can take place at STP meetings to sort through multiple proposals for the same issue and for actions to take on comment resolution.

•STP Meeting reports are intended to be issued within 30 days of the meeting and do not require the approval of the STP. The report may or may not include proposals discussed at meeting.

•UL's Patent Policy requires that when a requirement is added to a standard that includes the use of a patented item, that:

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1) UL and ANSI receive from the identified party or patent holder written assurance that a license will be made available without compensation to the applicants desiring to utilize the license for the purpose of implementing the standard, and

2) A statement be included in the standard regarding the possibility that compliance with the standard may require use of an invention covered by patent rights.

•STP members are expected to return ballots in a timely manner, restrict ballot comments to the requirement being proposed, help develop proposals to the standard, and provide input for comment resolution.

•UL's Collaborative Standards Development System is scheduled to "GO LIVE" on October 29, 2004. All new proposals will be required to be submitted using the new system which includes electronic balloting, on-line authoring, and posting of documents and comments.

2) Discussion on the Scope of the Standard

UL's Technical Representative indicated that after careful consideration and a significant amount of review, UL had determined that the requirements for Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories should be divided into two categories (Professional/Commercial Use and Household Use). The safety concerns and hazards associated with wall and ceiling mounts and accessories intended for household use are significantly greater than those intended for professional and/or commercial use. As a result, household mounts and accessories will require more stringent requirements. UL therefore proposed, at this time, that the Proposed First Edition (PFE) of UL 2442 only cover the requirements for Professional- and Commercial-Use Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories and that a Task Group be formed to develop requirements for Household-Use Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories. As such, additional modifications would also be needed to specifically address requirements that pertain to products used in a professional/commercial environment and installed by qualified service personnel.

Additionally, UL noted that accessories are currently being Listed independently of the wall and ceiling mount assemblies. After further review of the PFE of UL 2442, it had been determined that the proposed standard does not contain all of the necessary safety requirements for accessories. In order to ensure that consistency and a level playing field is maintained for all UL customers when evaluating such products, UL proposed that the PFE of UL 2442 be revised to incorporate construction, performance, and marking requirements for wall and ceiling mount accessories.

An inquiry was made regarding the status of the certification of products intended to be covered by UL 2442. UL's Technical Representative indicated that these products are currently Listed under UL 1678 (the Standard for Household, Commercial, and Professional-Use Carts and Stands for Use with Audio/Video Equipment). Once UL 2442 is adopted, UL 1678 will be revised to remove the requirements that pertain solely to wall and ceiling mounts (currently, Section 17) and conduct a file review to ensure that all wall and ceiling mounts and accessories comply with the new requirements of UL 2442.

Concern was expressed for currently Listed products that were intended for household use if it was decided to only publish requirements for commercial/professional use at this time. Therefore, it was the consensus of the STP members present that UL 2442 not be published until requirements were developed for all types of wall and ceiling mounts and accessories.

The STP Chair therefore established Task Group 1 (Household-Use) to develop requirements for household-use wall and ceiling mounts and accessories. See Appendix C.

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An STP member asked whether a TV mount for use with a specific TV can be evaluated to the end-product standard. UL's Technical Representative indicated that this is UL's current practice and that the end-product standard would have requirements that were equivalent to UL 2442. It was further explained that UL 2442 is intended to cover universal mounts for a specified diagonal size and weight of television. A mount evaluated to an end-product standard would be required to be marked for use with a specific model number.

3) Discussion on the Resolution of Comments Received During STP Preliminary Review

See Comment Matrix included as Appendix B.

NEW BUSINESS

An STP member requested a discussion on Significant Interpretations (SIs) – UL's internal process for documenting interpretations of a standard. It was noted that the requirements for accessories for use with wall and ceiling mounts are not documented in the current standard used to evaluated wall and ceiling mounts (UL 1678, the Standard for Household, Commercial, and Professional-Use Carts and Stands for Use with Audio/Video Equipment, UL 1678). As a result, UL has employed the use of SIs to document the requirements being applied to accessories. The STP member expressed concern that manufacturers have not been given the opportunity to review and comment on the interpretations and that they do not agree with the current ongoing investigations. UL's Technical Representative indicated that a bulletin is currently in development to clarify the evaluation of accessories and that the bulletin will be sent to all of UL's Listees for the affected category in the near future. It was also indicated that this will only be an interim step to adding requirements for accessories to UL 2442 (See Agenda item No. 2). It is UL's intention to include requirements for accessories in the PFE of UL 2442 prior to balloting, giving STP members the opportunity to vote on the requirements prior to UL publishing the standard.

It was then noted by the STP Chair that this topic was more of a certification issue and therefore recessed the STP for a short time so that the discussion could continue.

An STP member requested that UL consider forming a committee similar to the former Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) to discuss certification issues. UL indicated it would discuss this option with the Strategic Business Unit (SBU) Manager.

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

The STP Chair provided the following anticipated schedule (subject to modification):

- The STP Meeting Report will be issued within 30 days and include the STP consensus for the resolution of comments received.

- The draft standard will be revised to incorporate the changes discussed at this meeting and will be issued again for comment in late Spring 2005.

- The STP will convene again next summer if additional substantial comments are received.

- The final draft Standard UL 2442 will be balloted by Fall 2005. UL will attempt to resolve any remaining comments via correspondence (online).

- Publish UL 2442 by the end of 2005.

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APPENDIX B

COMMENT MATRIX

The Table below provides the proposed comment dispositions from the preliminary STP review of UL 2442 requested March 24, 2004 as concurred by STP Members present at the meeting.

The Standard for Wall and Ceiling Mounts and Accessories.

STP Project Manager: Patricia A. Sena, Phone: (919) 549-1636, E-mail: Patricia.A.Sena@us.ul.com

STP Chair: Bradley J. Schmidt, Phone: (847) 664-3064, E-mail: Bradley.J.Schmidt@us.ul.com

The columns in the comment resolution matrix can be defined as follows:

Comment Submitter	Name of person who submitted comment.
Para. # / Text Ref.	Indicates the specific reference for the comment
Comment	This comment matrix presents a summary of the comment and the suggested wording of proposals.
Action	The action, such as accepted or disagree, and the justification for the action, if needed.
Disposition	The proposed disposition such as resolved or unresolved.

No.	Comment Submitter	Paragraph / Text Reference	Comment or Comment Summary
1.	Charles Westbrook - Westbrook Engineering	1.1	Add floor mounts to the scope of the standard.
Action/Disposition: Disagree/Resolved. The scope and requirements of Subject 2442 were written specifically to address the safety hazards associated with mounts and their associated accessories intended to be secured to a wall and/or ceiling. UL currently has the following standards to address an apparatus that is intended to be placed on a floor: UL 1678 (Standard for Household, Commercial, and Professional-Use Carts and Stands for Use with Audio/Video Equipment), UL 1667 (Standard for Tall Institutional Carts for Use with Audio-, Video-, and Television-Type Equipment), UL 962 (Standard for Household and Commercial Furnishings). The consensus of the STP was to not include floor mounts to the scope of the standard.			
2.	Charles Westbrook - Westbrook Engineering	1.4	Why do the requirements in this standard only cover wood studs? Steel studs and joists are standard to hospitals, many schools and most commercial and government buildings.
	Tim Wissman - Lowell Mfg.	1.4	Regarding par. 1.4 which indicates that this standard does not apply to products intended to mount to sheet metal studs or joists, should there be a requirement to clearly state that the product in hand is not suitable for attachment to metal, either in the installation instructions or on a label on the product or both? Given the ubiquity of metal stud construction, and the fact that this type of installation is often done by semi-skilled labor, I think it could be an important liability issue.

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