

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES INC. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT DECISION

This Certification Requirement Decision is prepared by UL LLC. It is normative for the applicable UL Product Certification Program(s); however, it is currently not part of the UL Standard(s) referenced below.

Product Category (CCN): QIKH

Standard Number: UL 1741

Standard Title: Standard for Inverters, Converters, Controllers and Interconnection System Equipment for Use With Distributed Energy Resources

Edition Date: January 28, 2010

Edition Number: 2

Section / Paragraph Reference: Revision 13.1.3 and 13.1.3.1

Subject: Disconnect Device Actuator Options

DECISION:

The alternate requirements below, are intended to allow for the use of common disconnect devices that make use of non-handle type actuators.

13.1.3 System Disconnecting Means: A device serving the function of the NEC-required system disconnecting means shall:

- a) Consist of a manually operated switch or a circuit breaker,
- b) Employ an operating handle or other actuator mechanism that is accessible from outside of the enclosure or located behind a hinged cover not requiring a tool (other than a key) for opening, and
- c) Be marked in accordance with 63.26.

Disconnect actuator mechanisms without a handle shall clearly indicate the open and closed positions.

13.1.3.1 Equipment Disconnecting Means: A device serving the function of the NEC-required equipment disconnecting means shall:

- a) Consist of a manually operated switch or a circuit breaker,
- b) Employ an operating handle or other actuator mechanism that is capable of being operated without exposing the operator to inadvertent contact with live parts, and
- c) Be marked in accordance with 63.26 to indicate its function.

Disconnect actuator mechanisms without a handle shall clearly indicate the open and closed positions.

RATIONALE FOR DECISION:

UL 1741 was written to address common disconnect switch devices and circuit breakers. The actuators of most of these disconnect devices can be identified with the term handle. The common generic term “handle” does not specifically describe all actuators that could be used in these disconnect device applications. As PV inverters and electronics have increased in current handling capability, the use of low voltage power circuit breakers is becoming more common.

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Some low-voltage power circuit breakers utilize a dual push-button operator instead of an operating handle. An indicator on the front of the circuit breaker clearly indicates whether the circuit breaker is in the open or closed position, and the operating buttons are clearly labeled as to their effect. It is understood that the intent of the requirements in 13.1.3(b) and 13.1.3.1(b) is to ensure that the disconnect has the appropriate accessibility needed for operation. That requirement was not intended to limit the operating mechanism to only utilize handles.

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