

Total Lab Solutions



UL or Equivalent

Certification – Entela vs. UL

Is UL a standard? No UL is not a 'standard', but a testing agency of which they test and certify with a UL sticker. Entela does the same: tests and certifies that equipment is meeting US standards with respect to electrical safety.

If you have a customer that is still uncertain about UL certification versus Entela, Bernard Pasquet at NRTL (202) 693-2171 would be happy to answer any questions. He is an employee of OSHA, an electrical engineer by training and is responsible for reviewing and certifying testing organizations that fall within this jurisdiction.

- OSHA recognizes several organizations for testing. All of the testing organizations listed on OSHA website are certified and offer approved testing protocols.
- The certification process is extensive, and can take up 2-3 years to become an OSHA certified testing agency. The certification process involves an extensive application process, followed by a site visit by OSHA staff to assess the processes, protocols, methods, staff (and their professional background), facilities, test equipment, quality control review to meet the test standards established.
- Once certified, each testing agency is audited annually with a site visit to check the processes, protocols, etc. If a testing agency fails in one or more of the criteria, they are de-listed.

Is one testing agency is more stringent than another? OSHA cannot say as they are all evaluated with the same set of criteria. If approved, they meet the criteria.

Why does SANYO choose Entela? Over time, many companies have started to use other testing agencies because while UL is good at what they do, they can be:

Considerably slower - products can take up to 6 months to get approval.

Very costly - consumer products that sell millions of units can easily amortize the certification cost per unit more effectively. Scientific products, which sell considerably less units, can be adversely affected.

In addition, UL maintenance fees can be 5 times more expensive than CSA or Entela. Our intent is to have our units rigorously inspected while maintaining a competitive price to the customer on a very reliable product.

If your customer has any more questions, they are free to call Bernard Pasquet at OSHA with any additional questions.

