



Itron Meters, Electrical Safety and UL Certification

Questions have been raised about smart meters and whether they should be required to obtain Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Certification. The U.S. industry standards for electricity meters have long been contained in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C12 suite of technical requirements. The requirements were developed by industry subject matter experts in committees hosted by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA). ANSI has accredited NEMA as the authoritative developer of American National Standards for electric meters.

The standards developed by the C12 committees provide comprehensive technical requirements and specify construction and testing of meters to address matters of product performance and safety. Specifically, ANSI C12.1 and C12.20 standards include performance testing requirements for power surges and fast transients. The ANSI C12.10 standard includes the physical aspects and safety of watthour meters. All of Itron's electricity meters comply with these standards today as discussed in this [meter safety documentation](#). In addition, the ANSI C12.10 subcommittee is actively working to enhance the safety portion of this standard. The revision is expected to be completed by the second half of 2015.

Traditionally, UL certification has provided consumers of electrical and electronic equipment (e.g. TVs, hair dryers, kitchen appliances) with a confidence that such devices have been tested to minimize safety hazards. In the past, electricity meters, including smart meters, were not considered to fit the typical application or profile for UL certification because they are not consumer devices and are installed and accessed only by trained, certified installers and their boxes or enclosures are installed by certified electricians.

Today, UL certification for smart meters (UL 2735 - October 6, 2014 edition) has been approved by UL. Itron is in the process of submitting our OpenWay CENTRON smart meter for UL certification. We expect favorable results on compliance, which is estimated to be complete in Q2 2015.

In addition, Itron requires that materials used in our meters (such as plastics used in the meter bases, covers and insulation materials) from third-party suppliers conform to specific UL standards for flammability and other component level safety requirements.

It is also important to note that the meter service panel and meter socket, which house the electricity meter, are UL certified. The meter service panel and meter socket have served as the point of demarcation between the utility distribution system, governed by the National Electrical Safety Code and residential/commercial electrical systems, governed by the National Electric Code.

Consumer safety with respect to our products is Itron's number one priority and we are continuously working to ensure that we lead the industry in safety and reliability.

For more information, please go to www.itron.com/consumers.