

Frequently Asked Questions – Gates

Q. What is UL?

A. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., a non profit organization established in 1894, is self-described as “the leading third-party certification organization in the United States and the largest in North America.” UL’s primary stated mission is “to evaluate products in the interest of public safety.” Note that while UL declares it is the “leading” third-party certification, it is not the only one. There are other testing laboratories and certification organizations in the United States.

Q. What is a UL Standard?

A. UL standards are voluntary standards that establish minimum requirements and are developed via an open, non-exclusionary process. “Voluntary” means that the standard has not been initiated through any government or similar regulatory agency mandate. “Minimum” means the industry and those who developed the standard believe that the requirements should be met by all participants affected by the standard, and that more stringent provisions may be adopted by some in the industry. Finally, an “open, non-exclusionary process” indicates that any interested party can participate in the development of a UL standard. In addition, a number of UL standards have undergone a “canvass” (ballot) process in order to obtain recognition as American National Standards. The purpose of this process is to gain a wider acceptance of a specific standard. The canvass process typically includes interested individuals and organizations that may have direct or material interest in a particular standard. UL 325 is one of the standards that have attained the ANSI (American National Standards Institute) designation.

Q. What is the UL Standard?

A. For products within the scope of the standard, UL 325:

1. Contains the basic qualifying factors that products must meet in order to be documented (listed) and marked (labeled) as complying with the requirements of the UL 325 voluntary Listing and Labeling program.
2. Provides methods for testing products, primarily related to safety performance.
3. Covers installation of products in accordance with the National Electrical Code, which is Maintained by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and is in force nationwide. UL 325 is to be harmonized with this Code.
4. addresses safety concerning potential fire and electrical hazards, as well as the safety of the general public.

Q. How is UL Used?

A. UL 325 is used as a basis to test products at a nationally recognized testing laboratory. Gate operators that choose to participate in a listing and labeling program submit their products for testing. If they are found to be in compliance with the UL 325 standard, they are “Listed” and receive a “Mark”. It is very important to remember two facts:

1. There are laboratories other than UL that are capable of listing and labeling products. A “UL label” is not a generic term. For example, many people use “Kleenex” or “Band-Aids” as generic terms when in fact they are specific brand names. UL is a brand name, and “UL label” should not be used generically.

2. Products are not approved by UL or other laboratories. Approval implies acceptance of responsibility for compliance with standards. This responsibility lies with the labeling and applicant and not with the laboratory. The burden of proof regarding data always lies with the manufacturer.

Q. Will a Miller Edge transmitter work with another brand receiver?

A. Due to the differences in frequency and transmission speeds, a Miller edge transmitter will only work with a Miller Edge receiver.