



UL 1703

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Flat-Plate Photovoltaic Modules and Panels

UL Standard for Safety for Flat-Plate Photovoltaic Modules and Panels, UL 1703

Third Edition, Dated March 15, 2002

SUMMARY OF TOPICS

The revision of ANSI/UL 1703 dated November 25, 2019 New Fire Type Additions and Revisions to Existing Types in Fire Performance – PV Modules or Panels and Roofs, Section [16](#).

The new and revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated September 20, 2019.

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1

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March 15, 2002

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The most recent designation of ANSI/UL 1703 as an American National Standard (ANSI) occurred on November 7, 2019. ANSI approval for a standard does not include the Cover Page, Transmittal Pages, and Title Page.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to UL at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in UL's On-Line Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at <https://csds.ul.com>.

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1	Scope	7
2	Glossary	7
3	Units of Measurement	9
4	Components	9
5	References	9

CONSTRUCTION

6	General	9
7	Polymeric Materials	10
8	Current-Carrying Parts and Internal Wiring	13
9	Wireways	13
10	Connection Means	13
11	Bonding and Grounding	14
12	Spacings	16
13	Wiring Compartments	18
13.1	General	18
13.2	Metallic wiring compartments	18
13.3	Nonmetallic wiring compartments	19
14	Corrosion Resistance	19
15	Accessibility of Uninsulated Live Parts	21
16	Fire Performance – PV Modules or Panels and Roofs	22
17	Superstrate	27

PERFORMANCE

18	General	27
18A	Thin-Film Modules	31
18B	Bifacial Modules	31
18B.1	General	31
18B.2	Voltage, current and power measurements test	31
18B.3	Reverse current overload test	31
18B.4	Hot-spot endurance test	31
19	Temperature Test	32
20	Voltage, Current and Power Measurements Test	37
21	Leakage Current Test	38
22	Strain Relief Test	38
23	Push Test	39
24	Cut Test	39
25	Bonding Path Resistance Test	41
26	Dielectric Voltage-Withstand Test	41
27	Wet Insulation-Resistance Test	42
28	Reverse Current Overload Test	42
29	Terminal Torque Test	43
30	Impact Test	43
31	Fire Tests	44
31.1	Type tests for fire performance characterization of modules and panels independent of roof coverings	44
31.2	System Fire Class Rating of module or panel with mounting systems in combination with roof coverings	45
32	General	58

33	Water Spray Test.....	58
34	Accelerated Aging Test.....	62
35	Temperature Cycling Test	63
36	Humidity Test.....	65
37	Corrosive Atmosphere Test.....	67
37.1	Salt spray test.....	67
37.2	Moist carbon dioxide/sulphur dioxide	68
38	Metallic Coating Thickness Test	68
39	Hot-Spot Endurance Test.....	70
39.1	General.....	70
39.2	Cell selection and instrumentation	71
39.3	Intrusive method	71
39.4	Nonintrusive method	72
39.5	Theory and method of cell selection.....	72
39.6	Selection of hot-spot test level.....	74
39.7	Type A cells (high shunt resistance).....	74
39.8	Type B cells (low shunt resistance).....	74
39.9	Test execution.....	74
40	Arcing Test	76
40.1	General	76
40.2	Method A.....	76
40.3	Method B.....	76
40.4	Methods A and B	76
40.5	Method C	76
40.6	All methods	76
41	Mechanical Loading Test	76
42	Wiring Compartment Securement Test.....	79
42A	Cemented Joints.....	79
42A.1	General.....	79
42A.2	Material tests.....	79
42A.3	UV weathering resistance.....	80

PRODUCTION LINE TESTS

43	Factory Dielectric Voltage-Withstand Test and Factory Wet Insulation-Resistance Test.....	80
43.1	General	80
43.2	Factory Dielectric Voltage-Withstand Test	80
43.3	Factory Wet Insulation-Resistance Test	81
44	Factory Voltage, Current, and Power Measurements Test	82
45	Grounding Continuity Test.....	82

RATING

46	Details.....	82
----	--------------	----

MARKING

47	Details.....	85
48	Installation and Assembly Instructions	88

PORTABLE USE CLASS 2 POWER SOURCE MODULES

49	General	90
50	Mechanical Abuse Tests	90
51	Drop Impact Test.....	91

52 Resistance to Compression Forces Test91

SUPPLEMENT SA – SAMPLE PRODUCTION LINE TESTS

SA1 Scope93

SA2 Sample Size.....93

SA3 Factory Voltage, Current, and Power Measurements Test.....93

APPENDIX A

Standards for Components94

APPENDIX B Retest Guidelines (Informative)

No Text on This Page

INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover flat-plate photovoltaic modules and panels intended for installation on or integral with buildings, or to be freestanding (that is, not attached to buildings), in accordance with the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, and Model Building Codes.

1.2 These requirements cover modules and panels intended for use in systems with a maximum system voltage of 1500 V or less.

1.3 These requirements also cover components intended to provide electrical connection to and mounting facilities for flat-plate photovoltaic modules and panels.

1.4 These requirements do not cover:

- a) Equipment intended to accept the electrical output from the array, such as power conditioning units (inverters) and batteries;
- b) Any tracking mechanism;
- c) Cell assemblies intended to operate under concentrated sunlight;
- d) Optical concentrators; or
- e) Combination photovoltaic-thermal modules or panels.

1.5 *Deleted*

2 Glossary

2.1 For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply.

2.2 AIR MASS (AM) – A dimensionless quantity, the ratio of:

- a) The actual path length of radiation through the atmosphere to
- b) The vertical path length of radiation through the atmosphere to sea level. At sea level, for all but very high zenith angles (θ_z) (the angle subtended by the zenith and the line of sight to the sun),

$$AM = \sec\theta_z$$

2.3 ARRAY – A mechanically-integrated assembly of modules or panels with a support structure and foundation, tracking, thermal control, and other components, if used, to form a dc power-producing unit.

2.3.1 BIFACIAL PV MODULE – A PV module that is constructed to allow illumination from the super and substrate to be transmitted to the PV cells that are capable of generating power from both front and back surfaces.

2.3.2 BIFACIALITY COEFFICIENT – The ratios between the main electrical characteristics of the rear side and the front side of a bifacial PV module, at Standard Test Conditions (STC) unless otherwise specified for short circuit current, open circuit voltage and maximum power point.

2.4 BLOCKING DIODE – A diode used to block reverse current into a photovoltaic-source circuit.