



FURNISHINGS FOCUS

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3 **Wired Cabinets and Retail Displays**
Why Certify to UL65 or UL962?

5 **BIFMA Releases New Version of e-3 Furniture Sustainability Standard**

7 **BIFMA Standards Corner**
BIFMA Developing Standards for Large Occupants Furniture



DINP Added to California Prop 65 List: What this Means for Furniture

By Scott Steady / *UL Product Manager - VOC Emissions Testing and Certification*

In December 2013, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) added diisononyl phthalate (commonly known as DINP) to California's Proposition 65 list as “known to the State to cause cancer”*. Labeling requirements for DINP will be effective December 20, 2014, meaning that a business must provide a “clear and reasonable warning” on the product before knowing and intentional exposure of a person in California to listed chemicals.

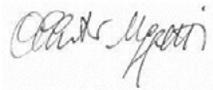
continued on page 4



A Letter from Alberto Uggetti

Regulatory issues continue to challenge the furniture industry. Whether it is the addition of DINP to California's Proposition 65 chemicals list, increased concern about flame retardants in furniture, or chemicals in products and supply chains, manufacturers are facing increasing challenges and scrutiny. UL aims to be a solutions provider to the industry, and provides our expertise to help manufacturers navigate the complex regulatory world. Through this newsletter, and our [LinkedIn UL Furnishings Focus group](#), we want to keep you informed of changes on the horizon, so you can be armed with the knowledge to make decisions that will benefit your business. We'd love to hear what issues are most pressing for your business.

Email us at furnishingsfocus@ul.com to share your ideas.



Alberto Uggetti

Vice President and General Manager
UL Furniture Division

CONTENTS

ON THE COVER

DINP Added to California Prop 65 List: What this Means for Furniture

3

Wired Cabinets and Commercial Retail Store Displays – What's the Difference? Part 3 – Why Certify to UL65 or UL962

5

BIFMA Releases New Version of e-3 Furniture Sustainability Standard

6

UL News

UL Launches Green Giveaway Consumer Contest
UL Webinar: Making Sense of California TB 117-2013
[Join UL Furnishings Focus LinkedIn Furniture Discussion Group](#)

7

BIFMA Standards Corner

[BIFMA Developing Standards for Large Occupants Furniture](#)

8

UL Standards Corner

[Updates on UL Furniture Standards](#)

9

Upcoming Tradeshows, Events, and Webinars

[Opportunities for our team to connect with you](#)

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAILING US AT FURNISHINGSFOCUS@UL.COM

Wired Cabinets and Commercial Retail Store Displays – What’s the Difference? Part 3 – Why Certify to UL65 or UL962

By Bruce Bohren / *Primary Designated Engineer, Furniture & Furnishings*

In our third article on commercial displays for retail spaces, we will explore which UL standard is best for your needs.

In Part 1 and 2 of these articles we presented some of the differences between UL 65 and UL 962, which are two standards used to certify retail store displays.

For a basic product display such as a glass enclosed cabinet or a shelving unit with or without a luminaire, manufacturers typically find it best to certify the display to UL 65 for Wired Cabinets. UL utilizes a certification program for UL 65 that typically does not require testing. Instead, the program allows the display manufacturer to build to the requirements in UL 65, and to an inspection document that provides additional guidance. UL’s Field Representative (inspector) provides the certification oversight for the program.

Additionally, UL 65 allows for more flexibility in the design of the display, since the standard has requirements for when testing is not required.. This gives the display manufacturer flexibility to build custom display cases and shelving systems without needing to have approval from UL engineering for each custom design. The program follows the rules of UL 65, which means that cord and plug connected displays have very limited cord lengths. Additionally, the cord connected displays cannot be provided with empty receptacle outlets for other field-installed equipment such as a point of sale checkout system, or for products that need power to attract the customer. However, a permanently wired UL 65 cabinet can be provided with these features. The program also requires that cabinets utilize UL Listed luminaires suitable for use in cabinets. Recognized

continued on page 8



DINP Added to California Prop 65 List ... continued

DINP is the newest of more than 900 chemicals currently included in CA Prop 65. DINP is used to soften or “plasticize” polyvinyl chloride (PVC), commonly referred to as vinyl. It can be found in several different components of furniture including upholstery textiles, surfacing materials, edge banding, and adhesives. Chemical content testing can help to determine if your components contain DINP. If the chemical is present, UL’s toxicologists can perform an exposure assessment for your products to determine if significant exposure is expected during normal use. While OEHHA provides safe harbor levels for some listed chemicals, DINP does not have a safe harbor level listed, and it is the manufacturer’s responsibility to develop a safe harbor level if none exists.

UL can provide product consultation, chemical content and emissions testing, as well as exposure assessments for products. For more information, please contact Scott Steady at scott.steady@ul.com, or view this free webinar to understand how these new criteria affect your supply chain, production, and consumer demand for your products.

LISTEN to the webinar ■

* <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/background/p65plain.html>

Article: California Proposition 65 and Chemical Warnings for Furniture and Bedding Products

In the U.S. today, there are a wide range of federal and state regulations intended to reduce consumer exposure to potentially carcinogenic chemicals. But regulations implemented under California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (generally referred to as Proposition 65 regulations) are perhaps the most extensive and far reaching of any currently in effect in the U.S. under California’s Proposition 65 regulations, almost every business operating within the state is required to warn buyers of the presence of any of nearly 900 chemical substances contained in or emitted by the products that they sell.

This article discusses the challenges facing manufacturers, distributors and retailers of furniture products and mattresses in meeting the warning requirements mandated under Proposition 65. The article begins with a brief history of Proposition 65, a summary of the requirements under California law, and a review of public and private enforcement actions undertaken in connection with Proposition 65 regulations. The article then offers a structured approach for assessing the applicability of Proposition 65 warning requirements to a specific product, and presents the key tasks in conducting a thorough Proposition 65 evaluation in such cases. [Download the full article](#)



BIFMA Releases New Version of Furniture Sustainability Standard

This past NeoCon, BIFMA announced the release of a revised edition of the ANSI/BIFMA e3-2014 Furniture Sustainability Standard, known in the marketplace as BIFMA level Certification. The intent of many of the changes is to create better alignment between the e-3 Standard sections and internationally recognized processes and standards. Overall, the new standard includes:

- Additional guidance, interpretations and responses to user questions
- New credits
- Revisions to existing credits and point values
- Refined baseline requirements
- An increase in the total number of points available from 91 to 100

Looking at each section of the standard, the major changes are:

In the Materials section, the Life Cycle Impact credits were realigned to be consistent with the ISO 14040 process and BIFMA's Product Category Rules. There are also changes to recycled and bio-based content and recyclable materials credits.

The Energy and Atmosphere section was significantly updated and changes are geared toward better aligning the section with life-cycle thinking. There are new credits for energy and greenhouse gas boundaries, energy management systems, Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions, and allocating energy and greenhouse gas impacts to specific products. The standard now incorporates internationally recognized greenhouse gas standards.

The Human and Ecosystem section credits have been restructured, and Annex B chemicals have been updated and clearly identified. The hazardous waste credits also are updated to be usable outside the United States.

The Social Responsibility section now aligns with other international social standards. It has a new Prerequisite for Community Outreach and Engagement, and the opportunity for five additional points. The section contains more focus on the supply chains of international suppliers

in terms of code of conduct, risk assessments and audits. There is also a new credit for safety performance.

The new e-3 standard took effect June 2014. New products can be certified to either the 2012 or 2014 version of the standard until June 2015. If currently certified products are up for recertification after June 2015, they must certify under the new standard. For more information on how the standard has changed, please contact Joe LaGrow at (616) 217-1323 or joseph.lagrow@ul.com. ■



For more information on level certification, please contact Joe LaGrow at (616) 217-1323 or joseph.lagrow@ul.com



UL News

UL Launches Green Giveaway Consumer Contest

UL has launched a consumer “Green Giveaway” contest designed to raise consumer awareness of healthier, more sustainable products. We are inviting our certified manufacturers to participate by contributing products to the contest, which will be promoted on Facebook and Twitter.

Contact Sarah Wilson, UL Furniture Marketing Manager, at sarah.wilson@ul.com if your company is interested in participating in the Green Giveaway promotion. And thank you to Naturepedic for kicking off the consumer Green Giveaway by donating crib mattresses! ■

UL Webinar: Making Sense of California TB 117-2013

Join UL for an overview of the new requirements for California Technical Bulletin 117 (TB 117 - 2013), the Requirements, Test Procedure and Apparatus for Testing the Smolder Resistance of Materials Used in Upholstered Furniture. Effective on January 1, 2014, with full compliance required by January 1, 2015, the updated TB 117-2013 specifies revised test methods and labeling requirements. This webinar will discuss the changes under TB 117-2013 to provide a better understanding of the testing requirements.

Date: Thursday, October 2, 2014, 11:00 AM EDT

Register to Attend: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4861180960542061314>

Speaker: M. Saeed Sheikh, Lead Technical Consultant, UL ■

Join UL Furnishings Focus LinkedIn Furniture Discussion Group



UL Furnishings Focus is now a discussion group on LinkedIn. Join the group to hear the latest updates on industry and standard updates, talk with peers and UL experts about issues, and connect with industry members. [Join the group.](#) ■



BIFMA Standards Corner

In his recurring column, Doug Woodard, Founder and President of Advanced Furniture Testing, will lend his expertise in performance and durability testing to Furnishings Focus, and provide relevant updates to standards that affect the industry.

Two hundred and fifty-three pounds is the maximum weight that chairs are tested to in the BIFMA x5.1 standard, but as our population grows larger and heavier, our furniture must keep up with it. Both office and healthcare environments require seating options for larger individuals, and furniture manufacturers are beginning to design and test furniture to meet weight requirements for users up to 400 lbs.

Today, BIFMA has standards in the development and review process to address furniture made for large occupants. In May of 2011, BIFMA began work on a proposed new standard which is tentatively to be named BIFMA x 5.11 General-Purpose Large Occupant Office Chairs- Tests, and will test for occupant weights of up to 400 lbs. The standard is currently out for vote and is expected to have ANSI approval in 2014. This will not replace the existing seating standard x5.1 for users up to 253 lbs., and it will be used for seating specifically designed for large users.

In addition, BIFMA's new Healthcare Furniture Sub-Committee is developing a Healthcare Furniture Standard focused on seating, particularly for heavy patients, in addition to cleaning and disinfection guidance. The committee will then focus on tables, carts and storage.

Once the standards are issued, manufacturers will be able to differentiate their products that meet the needs of large occupants, and will provide assurance that the products can

withstand real-world use. At present, some companies are making the claim without doing the appropriate testing, and this can present problems if the product fails to perform. It's important to differentiate between a product that can simply hold a large amount of weight, and a product that has been tested to repeatedly meet the impact of that much weight, such as the BIFMA x5.11 standard will address.

What can manufacturers do until the BIFMA standards are finalized? They can work with experienced testing providers to develop custom-designed tests that provide accurate data about their products. Based on experience and knowledge of the standards, testing providers can help manufacturers develop a sound, reliable test method that will provide accurate data for product development. Contact your testing provider today to discuss your specific needs. ■

Two hundred and fifty-three pounds is the maximum weight that chairs are tested to in the BIFMA x5.1 standard, but as our population grows larger and heavier, our furniture must keep up with it.

UL Standards Corner

Standards information link: <http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/solutions/standards/>.

Register for “What’s New” to receive e-mails twice a month indicating the new published UL Standards, Outlines, and Proposals: <http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/solutions/standards/accessstandards/whatsnew/register/>

UL 962 – Household and Commercial Furnishings

- The proposed 4th edition went out for preliminary review on November 22, 2013. The proposed 4th edition then went out for ballot on May 30, 2014 with a due date of August 13, 2014. This proposed 4th Edition of the Standard for Safety for Household and Commercial Furnishings, UL 962, includes the following major changes: (a) Separation of some product types such as massage tables and chairs and powered table systems into new supplements as these products have requirements unique to their product type; and (b) Combination of household and commercial requirements into the main body of the standard to improve readability.

UL 2040 – Folding Rollaway Tables

- The proposed 2nd edition went out for ballot on July 11, 2014 with a due date of August 25, 2014. No substantive technical revisions to the standard are being proposed. This new edition includes editorial revisions only.

UL 1286 – Office Furnishings

- Four proposals went out for ballot on March 28, 2014 with a due date of May 12, 2014. The proposals related to: (1) Additional Requirement for Vertically Adjustable Surfaces, (2) Revisions to Align with the New Edition of BIFMA X5.9, Storage Units, (3) Additional Requirements for a New Supplement Covering Office Furnishings Attached to the Building Structure, and (4) Revisions to Align with the New Edition of BIFMA X5.5, Desk and Table Products. A revised proposal went out for recirculation on June 27, 2014 with a due date of July 28, 2014. The revisions will be prepared and published in UL 1286.

continued from page 4

component luminaires must be reviewed by UL’s engineering group before they can be added to a Wired Cabinet type product.

For displays that are not as simple as a wired cabinet, UL 962 Standard for Household and Commercial Furniture is the standard for commercial displays that are typically more complex in design than wired display cabinets. UL 962 should be used for commercial displays that feature video, motion or power supply options to display products. The standard allows for options such as receptacle outlets on a cord and plug connected display, the use of recognized component luminaires, motorized displays, displays with TVs attached and power supply cords up to 15 feet in length. The certification program for UL 962 does require that each unique design be reviewed by UL’s engineering staff, and the flammability of the materials used has specific criteria.

The general rule of thumb is that manufacturers who produce basic illuminated display cases and shelving should choose UL 65. Products that include more advance features such as outlets for the products on display, or point of sale equipment on a cord and plug connected to a display, should be certified to UL 962.

For more information on UL 65 and 962, please contact us at FurnitureNA@ul.com. ■





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Sponsoring

Greenbuild

October 22 - 24, New Orleans, LA

Exhibiting - Booth #3231

Speaking

NeoCon East

October 29, Baltimore, MD

Speaking 8:00 AM -9:00 AM

UL Webinars

Making Sense of California TB 117-2013

October 2, 11:00 AM-11:30 AM EDT

[REGISTER](#) (in English)

Join UL for an overview of the new requirements for California Technical Bulletin 117 (TB 117 - 2013), the Requirements, Test Procedure and Apparatus for Testing the Smolder Resistance of Materials Used in Upholstered Furniture. Effective on January 1, 2014, with full compliance required by January 1, 2015, the updated TB 117-2013 specifies revised test methods and labeling requirements. This webinar will discuss the changes under TB 117-2013 to provide a better understanding of the testing requirements.

DINP Added to California Prop 65 List: What this Means for Furniture

[LISTEN NOW](#) (in English)

California Proposition 65 regulation affects manufacturers of products sold in California that contain any one of hundreds of chemicals listed by the State of California as known carcinogens or reproductive toxins. Over the last decade, nearly 2000 settlements and more than \$144.6 million in damages have been paid by businesses as the result of litigation from aggressive plaintiff's attorneys against products that have the potential to contain any of the listed chemicals.

In December 2013, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) added diisononyl phthalate (DINP) to California's Proposition 65 list as "known to the State to cause cancer"***. Labeling requirements for DINP will be effective December 20, 2014.

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UL LLC.
333 Pfingsten Rd
Northbrook, IL 60062

W: ul.com/furniture
T: 1.888.485.4733 or 770.933.0638

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