



# FURNISHINGS FOCUS

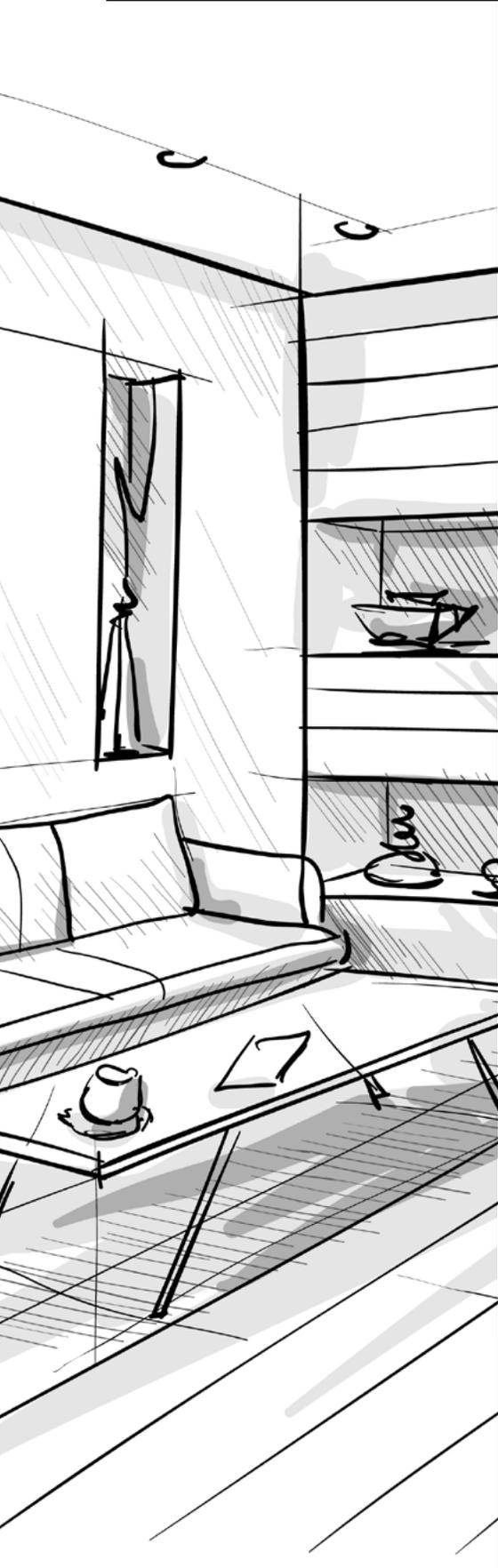
Summer • 2015

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AT [FURNISHINGSFOCUS@UL.COM](mailto:FURNISHINGSFOCUS@UL.COM)



# UL News

## UL Safety Certification for Furniture Now Available in Michigan and Italy Labs

### Furniture Manufacturers Gain Access to UL Safety Certification Services at UL's Furniture Lab in Holland, MI.

**Advanced Furniture Testing**, a UL Company, is now approved to provide UL Safety Certification services in our Holland, Mich. facility. The lab will have UL engineers on location to improve the speed of service, and be closer to furniture manufacturers. The demand for UL Safety Certification increases as more styles of furniture become power-enabled, and a facility in the heart of the U.S.'s furniture industry is critical to meeting manufacturers' needs and timing.

Our Holland, MI lab is approved to certify products to the following standards:

- UL-65 for Wired Cabinets
- UL-962 for Household and Commercial Furnishings
- UL-1286 for Office Furnishings
- UL-2040 for Folding Rollaway Tables
- CSA C22.2 No. 12 for Portable Luminaries
- CSA C22.2 No. 68 for Motor Operated Appliances
- CSA C22.2 No. 203 for Manufactured Wiring Systems

Customers can now submit products for testing and certification to our Furniture Laboratory in Cabiato, Italy, which has been qualified to perform the UL Mark for furniture according to the following standards: UL-962

(Household and Commercial Furnishing), UL-65 (Wired Cabinets), and UL-1286 (Office Furnishings). The lab is approved to test for both powered and non-powered furniture.

Please contact us at 616-928-0791 or email us at [furnituretest@ul.com](mailto:furnituretest@ul.com) for more information. [Read the full press release.](#)



## UL's Cabiato Location is the First and Only Lab in Italy with BIFMA X5.1, X5.11, and X5.4 Standard Accreditations

UL Furniture & Bedding's European Center of Excellence in Cabiato, Italy, is the first and only Italian lab that is ANSI/ BIFMA X5.1 (Office Chairs), X5.11 (Large Occupant Office Chair), and X5.4 (Lounge Seating) accredited according to Accredia, the Italian Accreditation Body. View the detailed report from Accredia.

UL Furniture & Bedding's North American Center of Excellence, Advanced Furniture Testing (Holland, Michigan), is also accredited according to the same BIFMA Standards. This consistency in accreditations throughout our European and North American UL Furniture & Bedding Labs will allow our clients to rely on our unified testing process and accuracy on a global scale. The official BIFMA standards followed by both labs also means that clients can rely on support in North America and in Europe as they bring their products to market.

To find more information on UL Furniture & Bedding's European Center of Excellence, refer to [italy.ul.com](http://italy.ul.com). If you have any further questions specific to our offerings in Italy, please email or call Rossana Scandroglio (+39.031.76927).

## UL Brings Sustainable Furniture to the World during Fuori Salone in Milan

UL's "Full of Light Experience and Sustainable Furniture" event was held April 15th in Milan, Italy. The event brought together designers, architects, buyers, manufacturers and others interested in lighting and green furniture technology and design. Learn more.



## Reel Time: UL Furniture & Bedding Sets the Standard for Furniture Testing



See UL's state-of-the-art furniture testing labs, and hear from industry experts about the furniture testing and certification services and UL standards available around the globe.

<https://youtu.be/6J5mjxShTnc>

# Standards Updates

## BIFMA STANDARDS CORNER

By Doug Woodard, UL North American Leader

On May 13th and 14th, 2015 a BIFMA meeting was held in Jasper, Indiana to revise X5.1, its flagship chair standard. Changes were proposed to align with the X5.11 standard for heavy users and the x5.4 standard for public seating, both of which are moving in the direction of being engineered for heavier users.

Several notable proposed changes to X5.1 may mean your products will require additional testing and reengineering if the changes are adopted. Now is a good time to test your products so you can get real data on how changes might affect your product, and help you comment on the proposed changes. Here is a summary of some of the proposed changes:

- An increase in the required load weight for x5.1 chairs to 274 lbs. to accommodate males in the 95th percentile of weight.
- A Swivel Test load increase to 274 lbs.
- An increase in the Tilt Mechanism and Backrest Durability seat load to 243 lbs. and X5.1 wording will be adjusted to include nesting folding chairs.
- The committee recommended a lower start angle for back strength test for Type 1 (full-tilting) chairs. It is believed this will more accurately reflect the way the product is used in the field.
- It was proposed that the Base Test - Static be removed and the acceptance criteria for the Drop Test - Dynamic be modified to include limitations that the center cylinder (the center column structure) cannot touch the floor/platform as a result of the functional drop impact test. Based on our experience, about 10-15% of chairs have cylinders that touch the floor during testing, so some products may need testing and modification.
- Adding Structural Durability to the standard was proposed. Some of you may recall this test from the 2005 Lounge and Public Seating standard. It is back with modifications to replicate a reversal of stress, and it is a push/pull test now.

In anticipation of the updated standard, we encourage you to examine how the changes to X5.1 might affect your product's adherence to the standard. We have developed a checklist below to help you determine your worst case scenarios for testing these proposed changes:

- ✓ For the removal of the base test and modifications to the Drop Test - Dynamic acceptability criteria, we recommend that you test products that have flexible plastic bases and low center column ground clearance.

- ✓ For the proposed 70 degree start angle versus the original 90 degree angle, this will be more of a force strength test and less of a tensile strength test on chairs with significant rearward tilt backs
- ✓ The addition of the Structural Durability test may prove to be problematic for side chairs/four leg chairs

If your products need evaluation, our experts can discuss the best testing options for you. Contact us today at 616-928-0791 or email us at [furniturena@ul.com](mailto:furniturena@ul.com).

## EUROPEAN STANDARDS CORNER (CEN)

By Matteo Longoni, UL Staff Engineer

### European Standard for bunk beds and high beds introduce new requirements to avoid child entrapment

The Technical Committee for Furniture, TC 207, of CEN (the European Standardization Body) met on May 21st in London. During the meeting it was announced the imminent issue of an amendment to the standard for Bunk Beds and High Beds (EN 747, Part 1 and 2). The aim of the amendment is to avoid suffocation risk and entrapment of the neck as a child climbs up or down a bunk bed or high bed. All upward facing openings that could potentially cause suffocation hazard will be checked with a special probe that simulates the child's neck, shoulders and chin.

Additional warnings will also be required on bunk beds and high beds and are as follows:

- a) WARNING "High beds and the upper bed of bunk beds are not suitable for children under six years due to the risk of injury from falls";
- b) WARNING "Bunk beds and high beds can present a serious risk of injury from strangulation if not used correctly. Never attach or hang items to any part of the bunk bed that are not designed to be used with the bed, for example, but not limited to ropes, strings, cords, hooks, belts and bags"
- c) WARNING "Children can become trapped between the bed and the wall, a roof pitch, the ceiling, adjoining pieces of furniture (e.g. cupboards) and the like. To avoid risk of serious injury, the distance between the top safety barrier and the adjoining structure shall not exceed 75 mm or shall be more than 230 mm";
- d) WARNING Do not use the bunk bed/high bed if any structural part is broken or missing;
- e) Always follow the manufacturer's instructions;
- f) The recommended size of the mattress(es);

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# UL Standards Corner

By Bruce Bohren, UL Primary Designated Engineer

Standards information link: <http://ulstandards.ul.com/about/>

Register for “What’s New” to receive e-mails twice a month indicating the new published UL Standards, Outlines, and Proposals: <http://www.comm-2000.com/WhatsNew.aspx/>

## UL Offers RedLined Standards

UL recently announced that all registered users of the Standards Certification Customer Library (“SCCL”) will be offered access to RedLined Standards. The service is available via purchase to all registered SCCL users who currently have access to the certification customer’s standards library and to others on a subscription basis.

- A UL Standards in redline format is a quick and easy way to compare all of the changes between the current, active standard and the previous version of the same edition.
- With a redline the user will immediately see:
  - additions
  - deletions
  - and other changes between two versions of the same edition of the standard
- With a Redline document the user no longer has to spend time trying to determine what has changed in the new revision.

- A Redline formatted document ensures the user sees what the changes are to the standard.
- Since Redline Standards is a “premium” product that would represent an additional cost to UL, all interested parties pay a fee for this premium service. UL Certification Customers will continue to receive the complimentary versions of UL Standards as noted above.

An engaging demonstration of Redline Standards can be accessed via <http://ulstandards.com/redline>

As a world leader in developing safety standards, UL is offering this state of the art, user-friendly service to all registered users of the Standards Certification Customer Library ([www.ulstandards.com](http://www.ulstandards.com)) for a nominal fee.

For more information, Richard Olesen, U.S. Standards, UL Silicon Valley Office, +1 408 754-6650 or [Richard.A.Olesen@ul.com](mailto:Richard.A.Olesen@ul.com).

## STANDARDS UPDATE

### UL 962 – Household and Commercial Furnishings

- The 4th edition of UL 962 was published on November 7, 2014. The 4th edition replaces the 3rd edition. As of January 1, 2016, the 3rd edition of UL 962 will be withdrawn.

### UL 962 – Household and Commercial Furnishings and UL 1286 – Office Furnishings

- A joint meeting of the Standards Technical Panel of UL for Household and Commercial Furnishings and Office Furnishings was held on March 18, 2015 at UL's Northbrook, IL Office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss proposals and discussion items related to the standards covered under STP 962 and STP 1286: UL 962 - Standard for Safety for Household and Commercial Furnishings, UL 2040 - Standard for Safety for Folding Rollaway Tables, and UL 1286 - Standard for Safety for Office Furnishings. The following topics were discussed at the joint STP meeting for STP 962 and STP 1286:

1. UL 962 and UL 1286 – Review of Scopes and Products Covered
2. Technology and Products – Future Revisions to the UL Furnishing Standards
3. UL 962 – Spill Test
4. UL 2040 – Flame Testing of Fold-up Roll Away Tables without Electrical Components
5. UL 2040 – Lubrication Intervals During the Endurance Test
6. UL 2040 – Test Parameters for the Bench Strength Test and the Seat Strength Test
7. Additional Meeting Topic Regarding the Standard for Furniture Power Distribution Units, UL 962A, and if it is Related to STP 962
8. Additional Meeting Topic Regarding a Review of Definitions, Specifically Home Office vs. Commercial

### **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. The ballot related to the first time ANSI approval of the 2nd edition of UL 2040. No substantive technical revisions to the standard were proposed. This new edition includes editorial revisions only. The comments and responses were recirculated on December 9, 2014. The 2nd edition of UL 2040 was published as an ANSI standard on February 11, 2015.

### **UL 1286 – Office Furnishings**

- Revisions were published on October 2, 2014. The revisions 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.



# Feature Articles

## New Power Distribution Standard Increases Flexibility for Retail Furnishings



By Bruce Bohren, Primary Designated Engineer

UL has developed requirements for a power distribution system for use on store shelving and rack systems. The new Outline of Investigation, “Merchandise Display and Rack Mounted Power Distribution Units, UL962B,” will provide a new classification for cord and plug connected power strips that provide receptacle outlets to power electrified merchandise, signs, video screens and interactive products on display.

This new standard will support the flexibility needed in a retail environment. Products with these power distributors installed will allow retailers to frequently reconfigure the power requirements on the retail store shelving and rack systems. The power distribution system allows for electrical merchandise, promotional electrical signs and video displays to be easily reconfigured and powered from the system. If you are a retailer or commercial display manufacturer, we encourage you to ask your supplier for products certified to UL 962B.

The systems are for use with 15 or 20 amp dedicated branch circuit receptacle outlets installed in the building and require a standard twist lock receptacle to connect the system. Use of these power systems will help reduce the evaluation of the overall display or wall shelving system when they are submitted for Certification to the Standard for Household and Commercial Furnishings, UL 962.

If you are interested in learning more about UL 962B, please contact your UL sales representative at [furniturena@ul.com](mailto:furniturena@ul.com). A copy of the Outline of investigation can be obtained at [comm-2000.com](http://comm-2000.com). Current UL subscribers can obtain a copy without charge.

## UL Offers ISTA Packaging Tests to Assess Security of Goods During Transport

You know your products look good when they leave the manufacturing facility. But do you know how they will arrive to your customer? A lot can happen in transit, and that’s why UL performs testing to International Safe Transit Association (ISTA) standards so you can feel confident that your packaging is up to the job. Our lab in Cabiato, Italy is an ISTA Certified Testing Laboratory.

UL can provide the necessary documentation and test reports for the Transit Tested Certification to appear on your packaging.

For more information, please [email](#) or call Rossana Scandroglio (+39.031.76927).



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- g) a statement that ventilation of the room is necessary in order to keep the humidity low and to prevent mold in and around the bed;
- h) all bunk beds and high beds intended to be assembled by anyone other than the manufacturer or his/her representative shall include assembly instructions including a list of the parts supplied and details of any tools required to assemble the bed;
- i) Instructions regarding positioning and connection of the means of access;
- j) the maximum thickness of the mattress (see 4.1.4) as well as information regarding the mattress maximum thickness marking;
- k) a statement to check regularly that all assembly fastenings are properly tightened;
- l) the number and year of this European Standard.

## Come See Us

### Upcoming Tradeshows/Events

Furnica Poland  
October 6-9 - Polska, Poland  
Exhibiting & Speaking

Greenbuild Europe & the Mediterranean  
October 15 - Verona, Italy  
Speaking - Paul Firth

EdSpaces 2015  
October 28-30 - New Orleans, LA  
Speaking - Paul Bates

Greenbuild  
November 18-19 - Washington, DC  
Exhibiting - #3437  
Speaking - Josh Jacobs

### UL Webinars

#### 3D Printing & Additive Manufacturing: Separating Hype from Reality

[Listen Now to a recording of the webinar.](#) (In English)

In an engaging, discussion-oriented webinar event exclusive to UL Furniture clients, UL's Lead 3D Printing Development Engineer, Paul Bates, discusses the 3D printing / additive manufacturing (AM) industry, its related technologies and considerations, as well as how UL is working with this innovative and rapidly growing market. This is a perfect opportunity to learn how 3D printing may impact your business from one of the industry's leading voices.

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