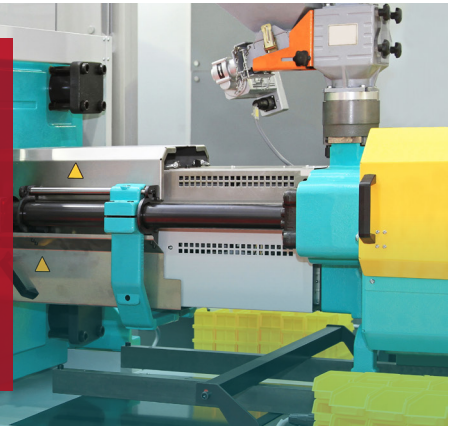


FABRICATED PARTS TRACEABILITY PROGRAM

UL's fabricated parts traceability program for polymeric materials supports supply chain integrity and end-user sourcing requirements



In today's world, products are produced from many components that are fabricated before the final assembly process. Verifying that those parts are manufactured from the polymeric materials requested and not modified is key to reducing a manufacturer's risk.

Overview

UL's fabricated parts traceability programs (often referred to as the molders program) is intended to eliminate the uncertainty of safety critical polymeric materials for component and product manufacturers when manufactured off site by a sub-contractor. These materials are often relied upon for their flammability, electrical resistance and thermal properties. Verifying that fabricated parts are manufactured from the materials requested and not modified in a way that affects their performance is key to reducing a manufacturer's risk and increasing levels of confidence that materials being received meet sourcing requirements.

This program covers polymeric material traceability of molded, 3D printed, encapsulated, potted and similar parts. Fabricators that choose to participate in this program comply with UL's stringent traceability requirements that allows for easy, quick and transparent verification of material identity for component and product manufacturers as well as 3D processing conditions. This strengthens supply chain integrity and simplifies UL inspections for manufacturers by reducing time and paperwork.

Program requirements

Under this program, the molder or fabricator is required to keep adequate records which will trace material from receipt through storage, inventory withdrawal, molding or fabrication, finishing, packaging and shipping per the requirements in the Standard for Polymeric Materials - Fabricated Parts, UL 746D. In addition, specific requirements regarding material modifications (such as additives, colorants, mold-release lubricants and use of regrind) help ensure changes do not adversely affect the critical properties of the material.

Fabricators that meet these requirements apply UL required markings with the parts so that information essential for traceability is preserved.

To ensure compliance with these requirements, each fabricator is visited quarterly by UL representatives. These visits include a review of parts in production, material modifications, applied markings and material traceability records.

Benefits

Value for component and product manufacturers:

The fabricated parts traceability program creates value for component and product manufacturers by helping ensure that the fabricated parts are not compromised and continue to meet UL requirements, especially when molders or fabricators use additives and regrinds. It also reduces the amount of paperwork and provides quick verification of material identity of fabricated parts through the required UL Markings.

Value for fabricators:

Fabricators that participate in this program demonstrate that they meet stringent UL requirements to provide transparency and traceability of materials used.

Fabricators Database

Authorized Fabricators are published on [UL's Product iQ™ directory](#) and [UL iQ™ database](#), under the category of Fabricated Parts (QMMY2). This database is used by component and product manufacturers to locate, verify and contact fabricators that are part of this program. It also enables the ability to easily choose from a network of over 2,000 active UL Fabricated Part suppliers to fulfill sourcing needs.





Top 8 reasons to choose a UL Authorized Fabricator

Here are the top reasons you will benefit from working with UL authorized fabricators.



Reduced uncertainty

Fabricators are required to keep adequate records that trace material identity from receipt through storage, inventory, withdrawal, molding or fabrication, packaging and shipping.



Reduced paperwork and time

Fabricators must apply UL required markings with shipped parts to provide information essential for traceability. This ensures quick and easy verification for product manufacturers and UL representatives because all required markings are easily accessible.



Increased supply chain integrity

Fabricators are required to verify and mark packaging with the material and modification used, providing transparency to the supply chain.



Improved product safety

The fabricators program reduces the possibility of field problems caused by the use of incorrect materials and helps avoid product failures and recalls.



Approved material modifications

Polymeric materials are often modified by molders, such as by adding colorants, additives mold-release lubricants or regrind. UL has specific requirements regarding proper use of material modifications to ensure they do not adversely affect the critical properties of the material.



Large network of more than 2,000 authorized fabricators

Authorized fabricators are published on UL's Product iQ directory, providing easy access to companies that are committed to meeting UL's stringent traceability requirements.



Supplement quality and procurement procedures

Fabricators are visited quarterly by UL representatives to ensure compliance. The visit includes a review of any parts in production, material modifications, applied markings and material traceability records.



Reduced rework and waste

Fabricators are required to meet UL's requirements for traceability to ensure manufacturers can easily accept and use the parts in UL Certified products.

For additional information or a quote contact UL at PMSales@ul.com or by visiting ul.com/contactus.



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