Itron Meters and UL Certification

The industry standard in the U.S. for electricity meters is the American National Standards Institute’s (ANSI) C12.10 standard. This standard governs all aspects of electricity meters and specifies how these metering devices shall be tested and certified to ensure compliance with the standard. The ANSI C12.10 standard does include testing related to power surges, fast transients, etc. all of which help ensure the overall safety of the product. All of Itron’s electrical meters comply with this standard, and Itron actively participates in and supports the ANSI standards organization.

Recently, questions have been raised about smart meters and whether they should receive UL certification. Traditionally, UL certification has been utilized for consumer-grade electrical equipment, meaning electrical equipment used in the home that consumers install themselves and/or have direct interaction with. Because electricity meters are installed and accessed by trained and certified professionals and electricians, and consumers do not interact directly with them, electricity meters, including smart meters, do not fit the typical criteria for UL certification.

However, Itron does require that materials used in our meters (e.g. plastics used in the meter bases and covers, insulation materials etc.) from third-party suppliers do conform to specific UL standards for flammability and other safety requirements.

It is also important to note that the meter service panel and meter socket, which house the electricity meter, are UL certified. The meter service panel and meter socket serve as the point of connection between the utility National Electrical Safety Code and residential/commercial National Electric Code.

Very recently, UL added smart meters to their list of certifiable products. Itron is gathering information about this certification and evaluating it to determine if UL certification makes sense for our meters. Regardless, consumer safety with respect to our products is Itron’s number one priority and we are continuously working to ensure that we lead the industry in safety and reliability.

For more information, please go to www.itron.com/consumers