



July 16, 2015

Subject 508

Our Reference: UL 508 and UL 60947-4-1

**To:**

Subscribers to Certification Services under the Standard for Industrial Control Equipment, UL 508, and the Standard for Low-Voltage Switchgear and Controlgear – Part 4-1: Contactors and Motor-Starters – Electromechanical Contactors and Motor-Starters, UL 60947-4-1

**Subject: Implementation of Continuing Certification Program for Electromechanical Contactors and Motor-Starters**

**BACKGROUND**

This Bulletin is to inform you that UL has introduced the Continuing Certification approach to the Standards Technical Panel (STP) for electromechanical contactors, motor-starters, and combination motor controllers of UL 508 and the STP has voted on the implementation of the changes in requirements. The result of this vote is that the change in requirements, transitioning from UL 508 and UL 60947-4-1A to UL 60947-4-1, do not warrant controllers certified to the present requirements to be recertified to the recently adopted requirements (refer to UL CSDS work area opened 2013-04-25 under UL 508, Ed. 17). Consequently, UL will not conduct an Industry File Review on controls currently certified to UL 508 or UL 60947-4-1A.

**CONTINUING CERTIFICATION APPROACH**

Please refer to the following for specific details of this new approach.

- UL is providing this alternative certification approach since the transition from UL 508 and UL 60947-4-1A to UL 60947-4-1 is a result of harmonization with the IEC based Standard.
- January 26, 2017 has been established as Effective Date for the change in certification requirements from UL 508 and UL 60947-4-1A to UL 60947-4-1.
- Existing certifications of these controllers to UL 508 and UL 60947-4-1A will be allowed to maintain certification and not be withdrawn on or after the Effective Date of January 26, 2017, provided there are no changes to the controller design that require a certification decision in accordance with the latest published Standard Revision. For example, changes to the controller design, ratings, or the use of alternate components requiring a certification decision submitted on or after the Effective date of January 26, 2017, the motor controller (in its entirety) will need to be evaluated to the latest Standard Revision, UL 60947-4-1 Third Edition. Additionally, new/revised requirements may require action to be taken in the future.
- After the Effective Date, only the latest Standard Revision of UL 60947-4-1 Third Edition will be used for new and revised electromechanical contactor, motor-starter, combination motor controller, and overload relay investigations.
- Until January 26, 2017, electromechanical contactors, motor-starters, combination motor controllers, and overload relays may be investigated to either UL 508 Seventeenth Edition or UL 60947-4-1 Third Edition.

## INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The plan to transition certified motor control devices allows manufacturers two options:

- A. Maintain certification to existing UL 508, 17<sup>th</sup> Ed. or UL 60947-4-1A 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. under the Continuing Certification approach; or
- B. Transition certification to UL 60947-4-1 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. either now or in the future.

This Continuing Certification approach enables manufacturers to transition to new requirements based on their own schedule and their market demands. It will also allow manufacturers to continue producing products presently certified provided there are no changes made to the products or there are no modifications where compliance must be confirmed.

## ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

- UL 60947-4-1 will continue to be the future standard for electromechanical contactors, motor-starters, combination motor controllers, and overload relays. Future standards work and harmonization activities will continue to focus on the use and promotion of UL 60947-4-1. As end-product standards transition to IEC-based Standards and reference motor controls certified to standards harmonized with IEC standards, it is expected that the marketability of UL 60947-4-1 motor controls will continue to grow, while the use of UL 508 certified controls will continue to decrease.
- Motor controls certified to UL 60947-4-1 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition are identified in UL's Online Certification Directory under UL Category Codes NLDX, NLDX2, NKJH, NKJH2, NKCR, NKCR2, NLRV, NLRV2, NRNT, and NRNT2.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or the Continuing Certification approach, please contact Salvatore Porcillo at +1 631 546 2620 or [Salvatore.Porcillo@ul.com](mailto:Salvatore.Porcillo@ul.com)

Respectfully,



**BRUCE MAHRENHOLZ**  
CPO Director  
Certification Programs Office