



UL Recognition for Labels on Durable Goods

About UL

UL is a US-based safety consulting company which was established in 1894, formerly named “Underwriters Laboratories Inc”. Electrical goods and components that are to be sold in the US, have to be recognised by UL for their safety. UL does not only certify after conducting tests in their laboratories, but also defines standards and writes specifications. UL understands that safety-related labels are critical to the overall safety of a product, and describes labels’ requirements in the standard UL 969, especially regarding the permanence of adhesion and legibility after different exposure conditions. Labels applied onto a UL recognised product have to meet UL’s requirements, and thus converters supplying labels to US exporting companies have to deliver UL recognised labels.



Going to market quickly

A key benefit of using Avery Dennison materials is that many of our products are already UL recognised. Labels are usually evaluated and recognised as complete systems by UL, and our existing recognitions can be passed on to label converters via “Label Adoption”. This reduces significantly both time-to-market and testing costs.

The Avery Dennison “Global Client Service Laboratory” in Mentor, Ohio uses UL-approved resources, equipment and personnel. It allows us to conduct testing equivalent to that in UL’s own laboratories, with results used by UL to work on their approval documents. UL annually inspects and audits our laboratory to ensure high and consistent quality.

New features can be added quickly to existing, recognized products on request. Our strong ties to UL, and our in-depth understanding of UL recognition, allow us to provide invaluable support and collaboration on new market-ready applications.

Test criteria for standard UL 969

UL 969 is the ‘Standard for Safety of Marking and Labeling Systems’, covering labels attached mainly to electrical items, electronic goods and safety relevant products. The test specifies criteria for the permanence and legibility of labels, and test procedures to be used.

Printed labels are tested for

- > Weathering
- > Chemical exposure
- > Water and humidity exposure
- > Temperature exposure
- > Legibility
- > Defacement
- > Adhesion
- > Abrasion
- > Ageing Stability

Applications

Labels are being tested against different criteria

- > Indoor / outdoor use
- > Different substrates
- > Different temperature ranges
- > Thermal transfer ribbons
- > Conventional and digital inks
- > Additional exposure to challenges such as oils or detergents

Avery Dennison *AD*vantage: Complete Compliance is a global service initiative that helps customers navigate the complexities of regulatory, trade and customer compliance issues. Complete Compliance delivers training, tools and

advice that guides customers through regulatory data and certifications to ensure products meet the compliance demands of specific applications.

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