STANDARDS UPDATE NOTICE (SUN)
ISSUED: November 19, 2025

STANDARD INFORMATION

Standard: UL 969
Standard ID:
Marking and Labeling Systems [UL 969:2025 Ed.6+R:28Jul2025]
Previous Standard ID:
Marking and Labeling Systems [UL 969:2025 Ed.6]
Marking and Labeling Systems [UL 969:2017 Ed.5+R:09May2023]

EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW/REVISED REQUIREMENTS

Effective Date: **July 28, 2027**

IMPACT, OVERVIEW, AND ACTION REQUIRED

Impact Statement: Per our accreditation, Intertek is required to review reports against the standard revisions to confirm compliance. Once compliance is confirmed, the standard reference in the report is updated to show continued compliance to the technical requirements of the standard. Reports not updated to this version by the effective date above will be withdrawn.

Note: The 6th edition of UL 969 was issued on July 24, 2025. On July 28, 2025, the standard was revised to include inadvertently missed clauses.

All products are required to be certified to the July 28, 2025, revision prior to the effective date.

Overview of Changes:

- New requirements for test surfaces
- New requirements for marking and labeling
- New requirements for instructions

Specific details of new/revised requirements are found in table below

Current Listings Not Active? – Please immediately identify any current Listing Reports or products that are no longer active and should be removed from our records. We will do this at no charge as long as Intertek is notified in writing prior to the review of your reports.

STANDARD INFORMATION

CLAUSE	VERDICT	COMMENT
		Additions to existing requirements are <u>underlined</u> and deletions are shown ~~lined out~~ below.
	Info	**PERFORMANCE**
4	Info	**General**
4.1		***New clause added;*** A marking and labeling system shall be permanent and legible in accordance with the requirements of this standard for its intended use. Factors to be considered in judging the acceptability of a label or related product in a particular application are the surface to which it is affixed and the environmental conditions to which it would be subjected to on the end-product during intended normal use, such as the use location (e.g., indoor or outdoor use), maximum temperature, minimum temperature (if applicable), and additional conditions (if applicable).
4.2		Labels or related products affixed to representative test surfaces and exposed to the applicable exposure conditions as described in Sections 5 – 8, shall show permanence and legibility as given in Table 4.1. Labels intended to be mechanically affixed shall be affixed to a device or test surface if such attachment is necessary for the evaluation of the label in accordance with this standard. <u>Direct part markings shall be marked directly on the same material employed in the intended application.</u>
5	Info	**Label Samples**
5.2		***New clause added;*** Printed/imaged samples are to be supplied with text in colors representative of the intended use. For labels printed/imaged in a range of colors, samples shall be printed/imaged in black, blue, red, and yellow colors to represent the full range of colors that may be used. If metallized inks or other specialty inks are to be used, those colors are also to be provided. When certain colors (for example, orange, green, violet, or the like) are known to be susceptible to fading, bleeding, or the like, they are also to be provided. In cases where the face stock color is the same as the text color used to represent a range of colors, an alternative representative color may be used to represent the range.

CLAUSE	VERDICT	COMMENT
5.3		***New clause added;*** The individual layers of the label or related product (for example, face stock, adhesive) shall be examined visually and measured using a micrometer having a resolution of at least 0.00005 in (0.001 mm) and accurate to at least 0.0001 in (0.0025 mm) to verify they are representative of the product to be tested. Any deviation from the manufacturer's specified nominal thickness shall be within the allowable tolerance specified in Table 5.1.
6	Info	**Test Surfaces**
6.1		***New clause added;*** Test surfaces are to be of the same material employed in the intended application or a representative test surface. When a representative test surface is used, the surface shall be of the same generic type of metal, plastic, wood, or painted surface, the same surface finish (e.g., smooth or textured), and of the same surface geometry (e.g., flat or curved) as the intended application. Table 6.1 provides a list of common generic test surfaces.
7	Info	**Preparation of Test Samples**
7.5		***New clause added;*** Heat fusion labels are to be fused using the specific application instructions provided by the manufacturer, including recommended temperature, pressure, dwell time, etc., as applicable.
8	Info	**Exposure Conditions**
8.2	Info	**Marking and labeling systems exposed to additional conditions**
8.2.1		***New clause added;*** The following requirements are in addition to the applicable exposure conditions in 8.1, All marking and labeling systems.
8.2.2		***New clause added;*** A marking and labeling system may be required to be evaluated after additional exposure conditions for an additional condition rating, depending on the end-product for which it is intended, and on the conditions the particular end-product may encounter in service.

CLAUSE	VERDICT	COMMENT
8.3	Info	**Occasional exposure to fluids**
8.3.1		***New clause added;*** Exposure conditions for marking and labeling systems intended to be used on end-products that are occasionally exposed to specific common fluids are given in Table 8.4. When a marking and labelling systems is exposed to a fluid which is not covered in Table 8.4, a fluid representative of service use, maintained at the temperature the fluid attains in service, but not less than 23 ±2 °C (73 ±4 °F) shall be used. For exposure to detergents, the fluid is to consist of a solution mixture of 25 grams of a commercial detergent per liter of water.
8.3.3		After being immersed for the time specified in Table 8.4, the samples are to be evaluated in accordance with the water immersion exposure condition in Table 8.1 for compliance with the requirements in Table 4.1 except that test samples removed from exposure to oils or similar more viscous fluids are permitted to drain for up to 5 minutes and those having been subjected to an elevated temperature immersion shall be allowed to cool in a standard atmosphere for at least 1 hour before being evaluated. When exposure to the fluid should be avoided, the Legibility Test (see Table 4.1) is to be conducted using a thin, smooth-surfaced latex or nitrile rubber glove. When a marking and labelling systems is exposed to a fluid which is not covered in Table 8.4, the test samples are to be immersed for 48 ±0.5 hours.
8.4		***New section added;*** **Exposure to solder thermal shock**
8.4.1		Exposure conditions for marking and labeling systems intended to be used on printed wiring boards exposed to assembly soldering are given below.
8.4.2		Test samples are to be preconditioned to remove moisture at 121 ±2 °C (250 ±3.6 °F) for 1-1/2 hours prior to being subjected to thermal shock. Thermal shock shall be performed immediately after the preconditioning, or the test samples shall be stored in a desiccator (apparatus for absorbing moisture).
8.4.3		Test samples are to be subjected to thermal shock reflecting the maximum temperature and dwell time specified by the manufacturer using one of the following apparatuses: a) Convection oven; b) Sand Bath; c) Solder pot; or d) IR reflow oven.
8.4.4		After thermal shock exposure, test samples are to be allowed to cool in a standard atmosphere of 23 ±2 °C (73.4 ±3.6 °F) and a relative humidity of 50 ±10 % for at least 1 hour. After cooling, samples are to be evaluated for compliance to Table 4.1.

CLAUSE	VERDICT	COMMENT
	Info	**INSTRUCTIONS**
11		***New section added;*** **Manufacturer's Product Application Instructions**
11.1		When test samples were prepared using the manufacturer's specific application instructions, as indicated in 7.2 – 7.6, the manufacturer shall provide customers with corresponding application instructions.
11.2		These instructions shall include application variables, such as the recommended range of temperature, pressure, dwell time, and recommended solvents for solvent activated labels.
11.3		The instructions shall be provided with each shipment or be made available electronically on the manufacturer's website.