

Certification NEWS

Lights on for new Lighting and Energy Star Lab

CSA International has established a new 8,000-square-foot lighting and electric laboratory near Atlanta, Georgia. It will initially provide testing and certification services for lighting products to comply with national and international safety and performance standards as well as requirements of the Energy Star program. Products with the Energy Star qualification mark meet strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

“Opening this laboratory is in response to the needs of our clients in the lighting sector and is in line with our commitment to expand operations and services in the U.S.,” says Randall W. Luecke, President, CSA International. “It positions CSA International to better deliver regional and local



certification and testing services as new and redesigned products emerge in the lighting sector. We also look forward to expanding the certification services offered to include other electric and electronic products.”

Some of the tests used to qualify products under the Energy Star program at the new facility, located in

Alpharetta, Georgia, are efficacy (lumen output, input wattage and lumens per watt), power factor, lamp start time, current crest factor, lamp operating frequency, dimming, lamp life, initial lumens and color, noise class rating, ballast operating case temperatures, transient surge, end of life protection, and anode/cathode cycling. Once a manufacturer has gained Energy Star qualification, CSA International can perform quality assurance and challenge testing.

“Many consumers are driving the Energy Star initiative as they seek to reduce their annual energy costs and make a personal contribution to energy conservation,” says Jason Chesley, CSA International, Sales Account Manager, Atlanta.

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CSA facility lights up with winners

CSA International’s world-class testing facilities in Cleveland, Ohio were selected as the judging venue for the annual *Lighting for Tomorrow* competition, held June 7th. The event, organized by the American Lighting Association (ALA), the U.S. Dept. of Energy (represented by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory), and the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE), is designed to encourage fixture manufacturers to produce a range of new lighting fixtures that will complement home décor, provide high-quality light and save consumers money by using less electricity.

“Energy conservation is an important issue to CSA International and we have a long history of testing and certifying lighting products to energy efficiency standards,” says Randall W. Luecke, President, CSA International. “This competition provides a valuable opportunity to provide our support to manufacturers and designers who have developed creative lighting

fixtures that help reduce residential energy requirements.”

As host of the competition, CSA International assisted organizers with planning, coordination, product handling and display, technical reviews and technical support during the judging process. Thirty entries were evaluated for their potential market impact, value, functionality and innovation in design and use of materials and components.

A team of 10 experts traveled to Cleveland from across the U.S. to judge indoor and outdoor lighting fixtures. They included lighting retailers, lighting designers, home builders, energy efficiency program sponsors and home décor media. Judges for the technology innovation competition offered specific technical expertise, such as ballast design and light engineering. Winners were announced at the ALA annual conference, Sept. 17th – 20th in Miami Beach.

2005 ALA Conference

A CSA International delegation attended the 2005 ALA annual conference, September 17 – 20 in Miami Beach. During the ALA conference Grant Carter, Vice-President, Marketing and Communications, addressed the Manufacturers Forum and elaborated on three areas where CSA International makes a difference in supporting healthy business for electrical manufacturers: first, by offering electrical manufacturers a choice in testing and certification services; second, by undertaking the fight against electrical counterfeit products; and, third, by pursuing a Components Acceptance agreement with UL that benefits all members of this industry. Mr. Carter concluded that CSA International placed considerable emphasis on service and trust to its clients.

Straight answers

What exactly do certification marks mean and how are they issued? Is one mark as good as another? How can testing and certification organizations help retailers and specifiers protect their customers and businesses from products that don’t meet accepted standards for safety or performance?

These and other questions are answered in a new white paper released by CSA International.

Understanding Product Certification Marks and the Product Testing and Certification Process is published in retailer and specifier editions. The reports help clarify the environment and provide practical information about certification processes that can aid you in your work.

To obtain your copy, visit http://www.csa-international.org/retailers_specifiers/

Help for Katrina victims

CSA Group has financially contributed to the American Red Cross to assist the Katrina hurricane relief effort.

“Since many of us are directly involved in the creation of standards and the certification of products related to infrastructure, we are acutely aware of the resulting need for rebuilding of water systems, roads and housing,” said President and CEO Rob Griffin in a letter to employees.

Earlier this year, CSA Group also donated funds to the relief effort following the Tsunami in the Indian Ocean.

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CSA INTERNATIONAL

Clients rely on CSA International for local service in China

From Chinese factories to North American assembly lines or retail shelves... products have a more direct export route, thanks to CSA International testing and certification services. Whether manufacturers produce gas appliances or electrical goods such as information technology, household appliances, audio/video equipment, lighting, tools or industrial equipment, CSA International offers local service, technical guidance and a cost-effective solution – and the certification marks needed for many North American regulatory authorities, specifiers, local utilities and retailers.

Expert service

“Through CSA International offices in Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Shanghai, we deliver timely, cost effective and trustworthy local service to our clients whose products are aimed for the North American market,” says Suzanne Kiraly, Vice President, International Services, now based in Hong Kong. “CSA moved its first group of North Americans to Hong Kong in 2000 to expand local service. Under the leadership of Area Director Fred Mark, local service was established in Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Shanghai. CSA staff offer technical expertise and knowledge of the North American and Chinese markets, and therefore can work effectively with the client on the most critical aspects of product design, testing and review to help ensure success in certification. We work with our clients every step of the way, using the manufacturers’ own testing labs or highly qualified local labs to ensure that evaluation can be done quickly in a convenient location.”

“Some manufacturers in China have some knowledge of what is required for the North American market, but they are eager to learn more and want to develop better and better products,” says Steve Dudden, Certification Specialist, who has been working with Chinese clients for about five years and has now moved to Hong Kong. “My job is to help

them understand the standards so they can meet that objective.”

An agile team

To ensure the right resources are always at hand, this year CSA International has expanded its Hong Kong office to better serve even more local clients. Specialists in power tools, audiovisual products, protective equipment, and gas appliances and components have been added to the already strong local electrical team of experts. In addition to supporting the growing engineering group in China, CSA International has introduced a North America-International support team, which is supplementing the knowledge of standards and testing methods of local staff so they can meet clients’ demand for expert service delivered locally. The team consists of 16 people from North America who work closely with local offices and use their proven expertise to serve local manufacturers.

“The international team brings added resources to meet our clients’ demands for timely certification services,” explains Suzanne. “They also provide a vast array of knowledge and experience which can be tapped to meet our clients’ individual needs. Most team members have been working with Chinese clients either in North America or China, so they already understand our clients’ business needs.”

Local testing of gas grills, patio heaters and components

CSA International is the number one source for gas product approvals in North America and the only organization that issues the familiar Blue Flame mark for Canada and Blue Star mark for the U.S., which has been the mark of choice for gas-fired appliances and accessories since 1925.

As more and more consumer gas products – such as barbecues, patio heaters and camping equipment – are produced in China, CSA International has

responded to the need by introducing its expert gas testing services to China. Indeed, CSA has recently qualified two local labs for gas product testing: one at Tianjin, near Beijing, and the other in the south at Foshan, near Guangzhou.

CSA has also transferred two North American engineers to serve this market and oversee the work of local engineers. Susan McCarthy, CSA Cleveland-based Technical Manager, has led an extensive training program over the last year to ensure local engineers are well qualified.

Service and trust

“In electrical, mechanical and gas sectors, we are also continuing to build the expertise of our local staff and qualify testing facilities so that clients can rely on us for quality testing, efficient service and good delivery times,” says Suzanne.

“What’s most rewarding is seeing North American and Chinese engineers work together to understand standards, communicate testing processes, and review materials to ensure compliance to help our clients successfully deliver to North American requirements,” she adds. “We have people traveling to remote factories, working in multiple languages, finishing projects in the late hours and reviewing constructions, all to complete a project on time. They all play a vital role in helping make products safer and creating a better world for us all.”

In the future, CSA is looking to expand its operations to include more local staff and testing facilities in the coming year. Plans include more local testing and service for components, plumbing products and protective equipment as the number of these exports increase. Clients can be assured that in addition to their long-standing relationship with North American offices, they will have a credible local service to support their growing needs in China.

CSA International participates in first US—Sino Summit on Product Safety

CSA International was invited by the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Chairman Hal Stratton to attend a Summit with US and Chinese government officials, retailers and manufacturers to investigate how product safety can be improved in both countries. The Conference was the first US-Sino Summit on Product Safety.

From August 30 through September 1, CPSC and its counterpart, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People’s Republic of China (AQSIQ) met to discuss their respective product safety regulations and processes. The Summit led to new commitments toward training, the exchange of ideas



As a follow-up to the US-Sino Summit on Product Safety, Hal Stratton, Chairman, U.S. CPSC, second from left, visited CSA International in Toronto on Sept. 7th for a first-hand look at the labs. He’s pictured with, left to right, Rob Griffin, President & CEO, CSA Group, Robert Raffety, Counsel to the Chairman, CPSC, and Eli Szamosi, Manager, New Business Development, OnSpeX.

and staff, and continued communication. In addition, it was agreed that the US-Sino Summit on Product Safety should be held every two years.

In his address at the conference, Mr. Griffin, President and CEO, CSA Group, cited key drivers affecting product safety, including a consumer desire for greater choice and lower price, manufacturers’ need to earn a profit, and counterfeiters capitalizing on system weaknesses. He called for more joint educational efforts between industry and certification organizations, greater cooperation among industry associations and improved awareness of issues, such as sharing details on product recalls.

Making a Mark with Manufacturers and Retailers

In several recent business wins, manufacturers and retailers are seeing the merits of – and placing their confidence in – CSA International.

Beghelli North America has decided to consolidate its testing and certification requirements with one supplier. CSA International will be the sole provider of certification for the company's new lighting and emergency lighting products in North America.

"Service was the main consideration in their decision to move to one provider," says Avery Yearwood, Certification Engineer, Lighting Products. "The client appreciated being able to deal directly with CSA engineering staff."

For more than 20 years, CSA International has provided testing and certification services to

LG Electronics Inc., a global force in information communications equipment, electrical business equipment, consumer electronics and home appliances. The U.S. is one of its most important markets, and today many of its products exported to North America display the CSA C/US mark, which indicate they meet applicable U.S. and Canadian standards for performance and safety.

Recently, CSA staff worked closely with the company to ensure that an LG DVD player/cassette recorder certified by CSA International would be accepted by Thomson Displays, a leading provider of color picture tubes, audio and video products worldwide. This case of mark acceptance opens the door for more business between CSA and LG.

On the retail side, **Wal-Mart**, the world's largest retailer has embraced the Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories process and formalized its acceptance of CSA's marks in a recent letter from Gordon Erickson, Senior V.P. and General Merchandise Manager.

While products bearing CSA marks have long been carried on the shelves of Wal-Mart and other leading retailers in the U.S., this development officially announces Wal-Mart's position.

"We're pleased to have the largest retailer in the world declare its recognition of the NRTL process and CSA marks," says Eli Szamosi, Manager, New Business Development.

CSA International certifies home refueling appliance

Imagine filling up your car with natural gas... at home. Thanks to an innovative refueling station pioneered by Toronto-based FuelMaker and certified by CSA International, Honda is now mass marketing its natural gas-powered Civic GX in the U.S. A team of CSA International engineers carried out testing to CSA and IAS performance and safety standards, including software safety evaluation.

Called Phill, the home refueling appliance is designed to be installed in a garage, carport or outdoors. It can be used in countries with either 120v or 240v power supplies, and is now available in various states and in France, where several manufacturers offer cars powered by natural gas.

"They really had to pull out all the stops to get this rather complex project through in under five months," says Robert Chautems, Technical Support Manager at FuelMaker. "Being able to access mechanical, EMC, electrical, durability and gas testing expertise from one source was a huge bonus for us."

Phill takes about four hours to replenish the fuel a vehicle needs for about 80 km or 50 miles of driving. Natural gas is generally cheaper than gasoline in your car, but the real appeal is that it's environmentally friendly, drastically reducing harmful emissions. And thanks to CSA-certified Phill, it's now convenient to refuel too.

Canadian Tire signs 3-year agreement with OnSpeX

OnSpeX is pleased to announce the signing of a 3 year Quality Engineering - Service Provider Agreement with Canadian Tire Corporation. Effective September 1, 2005, this agreement provides for the OnSpeX delivery of a wide variety of consumer product testing, product inspection and factory auditing services.

OnSpeX, a division of CSA Group, was officially launched in 2004 in response to manufacturers' and retailers' interest in having products tested for performance and reliability, in addition to the product certification services delivered by CSA International. Although headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, OnSpeX - Toronto has worked directly with the Canadian Tire, Quality Engineering team since 2003 and sees this agreement as a means of developing a long term relationship with one of Canada's leading retailers and contributing to their success in the Canadian marketplace.



Robert Duncombe, (left) Manager Quality Engineering, Canadian Tire Corporation, Limited and Randall W. Luecke, President, OnSpeX and CSA International signed an agreement.

Joe Gryn takes international honour

Joe Gryn, CSA International's Director of Conformity Assessment, has won a prestigious award from the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). The Standards Council of Canada presented Mr. Gryn with the 1906 Award, which commemorates the IEC's 100th year of foundation and honours experts from around the world whose work is fundamental to the IEC.

Joe has been part of the Canadian delegation to the IECEE (IEC System for Conformity testing and

Certification of Electrical Equipment) CMC for a number of years. He is chairman of the Committee of Testing Laboratories (CTL), the technical backbone of the CB Scheme. With a membership of more than 140 CB testing laboratories around the world, the CTL promotes technical consistency and confidence among CB Scheme laboratories, so that test results can be accepted. Mr. Gryn is also convener and member of several working groups.

Upcoming EVENTS

FALL/WINTER

Get Up to Code Quickly!

WATCH FOR 2006 TRAINING EVENTS ON THE NEW EDITION OF THE CE CODE!

- 2006 CE Code Essentials *
- Bonding & Grounding
- Communication Systems and EMI
- CEC/NEC - A Comparison of Requirements *
- Design, Installation and Maintenance of Electrical Equipment in Hazardous Locations

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- Fall Protection Series **NEW!**
- Introduction to Risk Management (in collaboration with RANA International) **NEW!**
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- Managing an Effective Lift Truck Program (in collaboration with IAPA)
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- QMI – The ISO 14001 Training Series *
- QMI – ISO 9001:2000 - Process Auditing Course*
- QMI – ISO 9001:2000 – Customer Satisfaction *

* available in French and English

For more information, or to register please call 416 747 4017 or 1 800 463 6727, email seminars@csa.ca or visit our Web site at <http://learningcentre.csa.ca>

Conferences and Events:

October

25-27/05

ISA Expo 2005 McCormick Place
Lakeside Center

November

14-15/05

Fuel Cell Seminar Palm Springs
Convention Center

14-18/05

CSA Z662 Biennial Pipeline
Forum - Petroleum and Natural
Gas Industry Systems
Calgary, AB

15-17/05

Win-Door Show Booth 221,
Metro Convention Center,
Toronto, ON

January

23-26/06

AHR Expo 2006
Booth # 4454, McCormick Place,
North & South

31-2 FEB/06

MD & M (Medical Design &
Manufacturing)
Booth 1626, Anaheim Convention
Center, Anaheim, CA

March

23-25/06

CMX
Booth # 1143/45 -Toronto Conv.
Center, Toronto, ON

22-24/06

2006 North American Robot
Safety Conference, Toronto, ON

April

21-23/06

KBIS 2006
Booth 5626, McCormick Place,
Chicago, IL

May

8-11/06

HPBA 06 (Hearth Patio &
Barbecue Assoc)
Salt Palace Convention Center

9-11/06

National Hardware Show
Las Vegas Convention Center,
Las Vegas, NV

30-1 JUNE/06

Lightfair 2006 Booth 2849, Las
Vegas Convention Center, NV

June

5-8/06

Globalcomm
Booth 10051, McCormick Place,
Chicago, IL

Certification NEWS

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Route to Taiwan

Manufacturers doing business in Taiwan can meet new requirements with the help of CSA International, which has been recognized by Taiwan Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI).

Effective July 1, 2005, Taiwan requires both safety and EMC test reports for mandatory certification of 47 types of information technology equipment.

BSMI now accepts CSA's EMC and CB reports without samples. In addition, CSA's CB reports are recognized by

BSMI after review and conversion by locally accredited laboratories into equivalent Taiwanese standards, a necessary step because currently Taiwan is not a member of CB Scheme and therefore cannot accept CB reports directly.

For more information or to arrange BSMI certification of your information technology exports to Taiwan, contact CSA International's Assistance to Exporters at 1-866-797-4272 or 416-747-2661

Reader Response FaxBack

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