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January 25, 2016

Dear Mr. Frank MacLeod,

In response to your letter dated December 8, 2015 with regards to your request for clarification to UL 1598/CSA-C22.2 No. 250.0 "Luminaires":

1. Industry practice of inserting a screw into the ends of lay-in-luminaire's to resist earthquake loading. What is the negative factor in this procedure?
 - a. Without going into details the seismic requirements which are called out in other standards/codes, luminaires shall not be modified or altered in the field as this will void the certification/approvals. The luminaries shall be installed and mounted as per the luminaire installation instructions provided with the fixtures. The installation instructions are evaluated with the luminaire.
2. Is a screw considered a device in the National Electrical Code and/or the International Building Code?
 - a. A screw used within a luminaire is a controlled component, the size and type of screw is evaluated within UL 1598 for "Mechanical joints and fastenings (Clause 5.10). The screw thread type, material and location of use is critical for mounting. Clause 5.11 "Means of Mounting" require testing of the mounting hardware.
3. Does the UL 1598 include a testing criteria for securing light fixtures to resist earthquake loading?
 - a. UL 1598 does not include test criteria for securing luminaires to resist earthquake loading, specifically lateral loads are not a consideration in the UL 1598 certification for luminaire's related to earthquakes.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact me.


Kavinder Dhillon, Eng.L.
Certification Manager

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