ULC Standards is pleased to announce the publication of the Fourth Edition National Standard of Canada CAN/ULC-S526:2016, Visible Signaling Devices for Fire Alarm and Signaling Systems, Including Accessories. This harmonized Standard was prepared by UL Standards, ULC Standards, and the National Electrical Manufacturers’ Association Technical Harmonization Committee. The recently published ANSI/UL 1638 (Visible Signaling Appliances – Private Mode Emergency and General Utility Signaling) is identical to CAN/ULC-S526:2016. The efforts and support of the NEMA THC are gratefully acknowledged.

CAN/ULC-S526:2016 and ANSI/UL 1638 have been merged into a single binational standard that can be used for Canada and the United States. Although the standards have mostly identical requirements, there are some that are unique to one country or the other – these requirements are denoted as country-specific.

This Standard covers requirements for visible signaling devices, such as flashing visual devices used for fire alarm or emergency signaling in both public and private mode; emergency warning and informative type visual signaling devices for use in ordinary indoor/outdoor installations in accordance with the following:

- In the United States: NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code; and
- In Canada: CAN/ULC-S524, Standard for Installation of Fire Alarm Systems; CSA C22.1, Canadian Electrical Code, Part I.

Some of the highlights of this binational Standard are:

- Harmonization of similar requirements between countries
- Identification of National differences where Harmonization was not possible
- Harmonization of similar test requirements between audible signals, visible signals and speakers where applicable
- Enhanced requirements for components and installation wiring diagrams
- Clarification of marking requirements and where marking is required
- Enhanced and updated test requirements for Component Stress Radio Frequency and Electromagnetic Radiations, Polymeric Materials, Gaskets, and Variable Ambient Temperature

This standard can be purchased for CAD$ 262.80 (hardcopy) or CAD$ 219.00 (PDF format) through our website at www.ulc.ca and by selecting the link to ULC Standards and Sales of ULC Standards Materials.

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Yours truly,

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January 28, 2016