

# Who Is Responsible for Consumer Safety?

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**Underwriters  
Laboratories Inc.®**

# What Is UL?

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- Independent
- Not-for-profit
- Develops safety standards
- Unbiased
- Global

# Crunching Numbers

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- Evaluates 18,000 different products
- More than 100,000 investigations
- 6000 employees
- More than 1/2 million factory inspections
- 19 billion UL marks
- Safety testing for 110 years

# Safety Standards

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# Voluntary???

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- Retailers
- Authorities having jurisdiction
- Consumers

# Voluntary

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- Consensus standards
- Non-government standards
- Fast track standards
- Private sector standards

# UL Standards Development

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- More than 800 product standards
- 50 full time staff members
- 100 involved in international standards

# UL Looks for Input

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- Manufacturers
- Government agencies
- Consumers
- Medical experts
- Fire officials
- Code authorities



# Standards Technical Panels

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- Follows the ANSI process
- Balanced – three major groups
- Open attendance policy



# Government Value

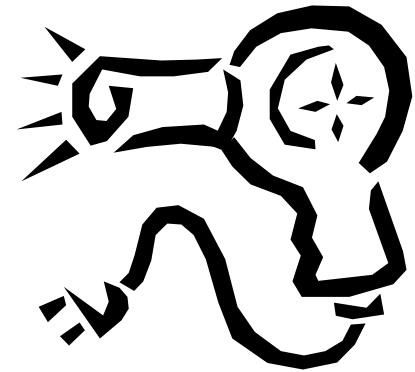
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- Statistics
- Safety education
- Recalls

# Consumer Value

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- Curling irons
- Smoke alarms
- Cooking range



# Emerging Issues

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Toasters

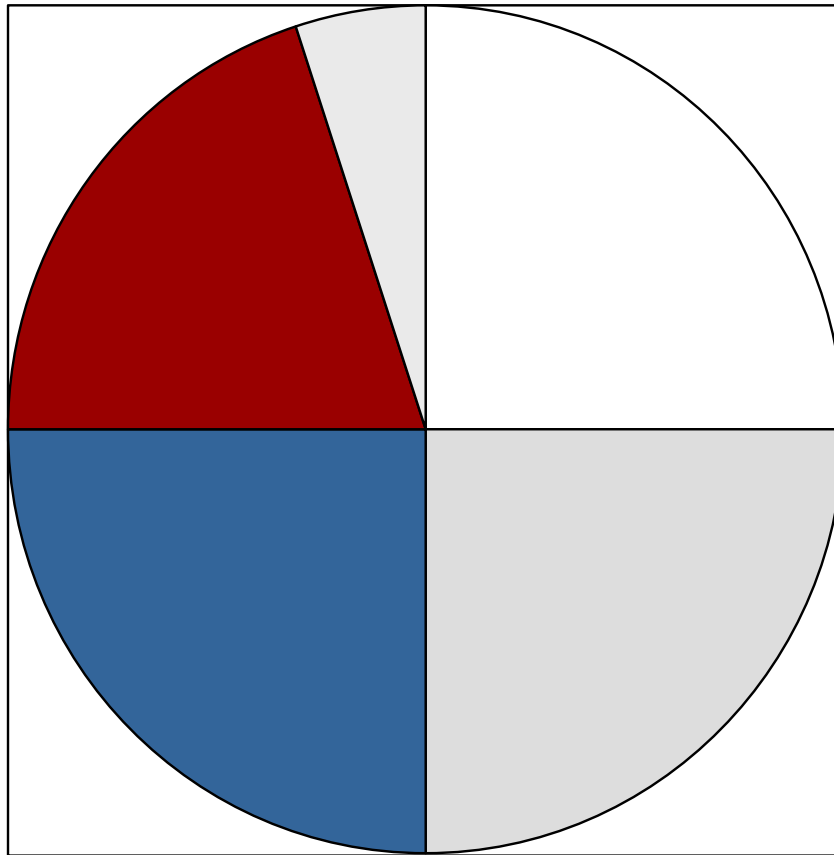
Robotic Lawn Mower

Smoke Alarms

Cooking Fires

# Product Safety Responsibility

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- Standards**
- Testing**
- Follow up**
- Outreach**
- Liability**

# Impact of Consensus Standards

- Save lives
- Save injuries
- Save property
- Save money

