

Smoke Alarms with Sensitivity Calibration Provisions

Q: Section 10.4.4.2 of the National Fire Alarm Code requires smoke alarms located in other than one and two family dwellings to have their sensitivity calibrated and tested in a fashion similar to smoke detectors. Are there any Listed smoke alarms that are suitable for use where such testing is required? If so, how are they identified?

A: UL has investigated and Listed smoke alarms for use in this application under the Commercial/Residential Single- and Multiple-station Smoke Alarms product category (UTHA).

These smoke alarms are investigated in accordance with ANSI/UL 217, the Standard for Safety for Single and Multiple Station Smoke Alarms. They must also comply with the sensitivity indicating means and field service tests outlined in ANSI/UL 268, the Standard for Safety for Smoke Detectors for Fire Protective Signaling Systems.

Products complying with these requirements carry a Listing Mark that includes the phrase "Commercial/Residential Smoke Alarm." These products are intended to be installed, maintained and tested in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instruction.

Smoke alarms that do not include the "Commercial/Residential" reference as part of their UL Listing Mark have not been investigated for use in these applications, and may not include provisions for testing sensitivity in the field.

