

What does it mean for a fire damper, smoke damper, combination fire & smoke damper, or ceiling damper to be UL Classified?

First, it means that the damper's design has been tested per the requirements of the applicable UL 555 series of test standards (UL 555 Fire Dampers, UL 555S Smoke Dampers, or UL 555C Ceiling Dampers). Second, it means that the damper was manufactured under UL's Follow-Up Service Program. The Follow-Up Service Program subjects the dampers to random, unannounced inspections by UL's follow-up service personnel. The UL inspector compares the construction of the dampers being produced with the manufacturer's UL Follow-Up Service Procedure which describes the construction of the dampers that were tested to the requirements of the standard. Any variation between the dampers being produced and the Follow-Up Service Procedure can result in the inspector preventing the damper(s) from shipping with the UL Classification Mark (i.e. the UL label).

What does the UL Classification Mark signify?

The UL Classification Mark simply signifies that a damper was produced under UL's Follow-Up Service Program and therefore met the requirements of the manufacturer's Follow-Up Service Procedure when it left the factory. As such, any changes to the damper after it leaves the factory fall outside the scope of the UL's Follow-Up Service Program.



So can any changes be made to a damper after it leaves the factory?

Although changes to a UL classified damper fall outside the scope of UL's Follow-Up Service Program, that does not necessarily preclude changes from being made. The damper's construction must still comply with the manufacturer's Follow-Up Service Procedure after the changes are made. Any field modification will need final approval from the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

What is a UL Field Inspection?

In some cases those involved may decide that 3rd party verification is necessary to confirm that the damper still complies with the Follow-Up Service Procedure after changes have been made. For this reason UL offers it's field inspection service. Only the manufacturer of the damper(s) can request a field inspection. After a field inspection is conducted the UL representative will issue a report detailing whether or not the damper(s) still complies with the Follow-UP Service Procedure.



Link to UL Marking and Application Guide for Dampers