

# **NASFM REVISED Proposal to the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Standards Technical Panel (STP) 60950-1, Information Technology Equipment – Safety –Part 1: General Requirements**

(CURRENT)

No comparable provisions currently exist in 60950-1.

(PROPOSED ADDITION TO CLAUSE 4.7.1):

*[Add the following new paragraph at the end of the requirements under Clause 4.7.1 Reducing the risk of ignition and spread of flame.]*

In addition to the application of Method 1 and Method 2 as appropriate, equipment that is intended to be used in the home and that may be accidentally ignited by an external candle flame shall be so designed that the likelihood of the spread of fire caused by ignition from a candle flame is reduced.

Compliance with the resistance to candle flame ignition requirements is checked according to IEC TS 62441.

NOTE 3. It is expected that IEC TS 62441 will be replaced by a standard in the future, at which time that standard becomes applicable.

## **Justification:**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) revises this proposal to incorporate a reference to the International Electrotechnical Commission's (IEC) "Technical Specification (TS) 62441: Accidentally caused candle flame ignition," which was developed as part of the IEC's work on the new TC 108 standard on the "Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology." It is apparent that a specification for the external ignition of IT equipment by a small open flame is necessary. This is evidenced by the extensive amount of research that exists to justify the hazard represented by flammable housings of IT equipment. In addition, the IEC has spent the better part of a decade justifying and drafting the TS.

The IEC has already completed the required work on TS 62441, and even though the entire TC 108 package is still in the development process, TS 62441 can be adopted as a stand-alone requirement by manufacturers at any time. NASFM proposes that the 60950 STP be proactive and adopt TS 62441 for North America, ahead of its finalization in TC 108. This will pave the way for industry in creating a level playing field and will demonstrate both UL's and the North American industry leadership's commitment to excellence in fire safety and to the protection of the citizens of this continent. Environmentally friendly technologies exist, and manufacturers have the ability to make their products safer for the people who buy them.