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### **UL creates North America Optic Network Test Center**

**NORTHBROOK, Ill, January 12, 2004** -- Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) recently opened a 6,000-square-foot, Performance Verification testing lab devoted exclusively to optical fiber products. The lab is located at UL's Melville, N.Y., facility on Long Island.

The new lab houses state-of-the-art test equipment, including optical switches, temperature chambers, tension tester, salt/fog tester, dust tester, temperature shock chamber, interferometers, mechanical testing equipment and fiber analysis/geometry equipment.

"UL has invested significant resources in the equipment needed to conduct full performance investigations of these products, from the bare fiber to the finished product," said Steve Galan, general manager of UL's Wire and Cable Services business unit.

UL recently expanded the scope of its optical fiber service offerings by obtaining authorization from Verizon to conduct Performance Verification testing under the Passive Fiber Optic Components (PFOC) Program to GR-20 (Outside Plant Cable), GR-409 (Premise Cable) and Optical Fiber Terminators (GR-1222).

The Verizon authorizations permit UL to conduct both in-house testing at Melville, as well as witness testing at a manufacturer's facility. Under witness testing, UL assesses a manufacturer's testing facility to determine that it has the appropriate equipment, staff and laboratory procedures to perform the applicable tests.

UL is the first Independent Test Laboratory to receive authorization under the PFOC Program to conduct GR-409 testing. UL's Optic Network Test Center currently offers these services:

- Safety certification to UL 1651, Standard for Safety for Optical Fiber Cable (QAYK)
- Safety certification for connectors (QBEA) and branching devices (QBFA)
- Safety certification for field-assembled optical fiber cable (QAZD)
- Performance Verification for connectors (QBFA) and branching devices (QBFN) to national or international performance Standards
- Performance Verification to New York City Transit specification TO (QAZK)
- Verizon PFOC Performance Verification Services to GR-20, GR-326, GR-409 and GR-1222
- One-time letter report Performance Verification services to GR-20, GR-326, GR-409, GR-1222, GR-1435 (multi-fiber connectors), GR-2866 (fan-out devices) and REA PE-90.

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Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is an independent, not-for-profit product safety certification organization that has been testing products for more than 109 years and writing Standards for Safety for 100 years. UL tests more than 18,000 types of products annually, and more than 17 billion UL Marks appear on products each year. Worldwide, UL's family of companies and its network of service providers include 55 laboratories, and testing and certification facilities.