UL 1236

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Battery Chargers for Charging Engine-Starter Batteries

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UL Standard for Safety for Battery Chargers for Charging Engine-Starter Batteries, UL 1236

Ninth Edition, Dated April 28, 2026

Summary of Topics

This new Ninth Edition of ANSI/UL 1236, dated April 28, 2026, incorporates editorial changes including renumbering and reformatting to align with current style.

The new and revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated August 22, 2025 and February 6, 2026.

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The most recent designation of ANSI/UL 1236 as an American National Standard (ANSI) occurred on April 28, 2026. ANSI approval for a standard does not include the Cover Page, Transmittal Pages, and Title Page.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to ULSE at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in the Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at https://csds.ul.com.

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover battery chargers rated 600 volts or less and intended for household or commercial use to charge lead-acid engine-starter and other starting, lighting, and ignition (SLI) type batteries, in accordance with NFPA 70®, *National Electrical Code*® (NEC®). The requirements also cover a battery charger intended to be permanently installed on a boat.

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1.2 A battery charger for use with an internal combustion engine driving a centrifugal fire pump shall comply with the requirements of this Standard and the applicable requirements for the end product.

1.3 These requirements do not cover the following types of battery chargers:

a) Battery chargers for use in industrial applications as covered by the Standard for Industrial Battery Chargers, UL 1564;

b) Battery charger systems for use in electric vehicle applications covered by the Standard for DC Charging Equipment for Electric Vehicles, UL 2202;

c) Battery chargers for use with portable tools or household appliances as covered by the Standard for Power Units Other Than Class 2, UL 1012, or the Standard for Class 2 Power Units, UL 1310; and

d) Battery chargers for fire protection signaling service.

2 Components

2.1 A component of a product covered by this Standard shall:

a) Comply with the requirements for that component as specified in this Standard;

b) Be used in accordance with its rating(s) established for the intended conditions of use; and

c) Be used within its established use limitations or conditions of acceptability.

2.2 A component of a product covered by this Standard is not required to comply with a specific component requirement that:

a) Involves a feature or characteristic not required in the application of the component in the product;

b) Is superseded by a requirement in this Standard; or

c) Is separately evaluated when forming part of another component, provided the component is used within its established ratings and limitations.

2.3 Specific components are incomplete in construction features or restricted in performance capabilities. Such components are intended for use only under limited conditions, such as certain temperatures not exceeding specified limits, and shall be used only under those specific conditions.

2.4 A component that is also intended to perform other functions such as overcurrent protection, ground-fault circuit-interruption, surge suppression, any other similar functions, or any combination thereof, shall

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comply additionally with the requirements of the applicable standard(s) that cover devices that provide those functions.

3 Units of Measurement

3.1 Values stated without parentheses are the requirement. Values in parentheses are explanatory or approximate information.

3.2 Unless otherwise stated, values of current and voltage are root-mean-square for alternating current and average for direct current.

4 Referenced Publications

4.1 Any undated reference to a code or standard appearing in the requirements of this Standard shall be interpreted as referring to the latest edition of that code or standard.

4.2 The following publications are referenced in this Standard:

ASTM A653, *Standard Specification for Steel Sheet, Zinc-Coated (Galvanized) or Zinc-Iron Alloy-Coated (Galvannealed) by the Hot-Dip Process*

ASTM D396, *Standard Specification for Fuel Oils*

ASTM D412, *Standard Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers – Tension*

ASTM E28, *Standard Test Methods for Softening Point of Resins Derived from Pine Chemicals and Hydrocarbons, by Ring-and-Ball Apparatus*

ASTM E230/E230M, *Standard Specification for Temperature-Electromotive Force (emf) Tables for Standardized Thermocouples*

NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection*

NFPA 70®, *National Electrical Code®* (NEC®)

NFPA 110, *Emergency and Standby Power Systems*

NFPA 302, *Fire Protection Standard for Pleasure and Commercial Motor Craft*

SAE J563, *Standard for 12 Volt Cigarette Lighters, Power Outlets, and Accessory Plugs*

UL 44, *Thermoset-Insulated Wires and Cables*

UL 50E, *Enclosures for Electrical Equipment, Environmental Considerations*

UL 83, *Thermoplastic-Insulated Wires and Cables*

UL 489, *Molded-Case Circuit Breakers, Molded-Case Switches and Circuit-Breaker Enclosures*

UL 746C, *Polymeric Materials – Use in Electrical Equipment Evaluations*

UL 758, *Appliance Wiring Material*

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UL 796, *Printed Wiring Boards*

UL 840, *Insulation Coordination Including Clearances and Creepage Distances for Electrical Equipment*

UL 969, *Marking and Labeling Systems*

UL 1004-2, *Impedance Protected Motors*

UL 1004-3, *Thermally Protected Motors*

UL 1012, *Power Units Other Than Class 2*

UL 1283, *Electromagnetic Interference Filters*

UL 1310, *Class 2 Power Units*

UL 1437, *Electrical Analog Instruments – Panel Board Types*

UL 1564, *Industrial Battery Chargers*

UL 1977, *Component Connectors for Use in Data, Signal, Control and Power Applications*

UL 2089, *Vehicle Battery Adapters*

UL 2202, *DC Charging Equipment for Electric Vehicles*

UL 5085-1, *Low Voltage Transformers – Part 1: General Requirements*

UL 5085-3, *Low Voltage Transformers – Part 3: Class 2 and Class 3 Transformers*

UL 60384-14, *Fixed Capacitors for Use in Electronic Equipment – Part 14: Sectional Specification – Fixed Capacitors for Electromagnetic Interference Suppression and Connection to the Supply Mains*

UL 60691, *Thermal-Links – Requirements and Application Guide*

5 Glossary

5.1 For the purpose of this Standard the following definitions apply.

5.2 AUTOMATIC BATTERY CHARGER – A battery charger which senses that the battery has been charged and automatically maintains or terminates the charge.

5.3 BATTERY CHARGER – A device used to replenish the capacity of batteries.

5.4 COMMERCIAL BATTERY CHARGER – A battery charger intended or marketed for use in commercial establishments, such as automotive service stations or battery sales outlets.

5.5 CLASS 2 TRANSFORMER – A step-down transformer having a secondary voltage of not more than 30 volts rms (42.4 volts peak) under any condition of loading or open circuit and complying with the applicable requirements in UL 5085-1 and UL 5085-3.

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