



Test method for finished energy storage box

Do battery energy storage systems need UL 9540A testing?

Building and fire codes require testing of battery energy storage systems (BESS) to show that they do not exceed maximum allowable quantities and they allow for adequate distancing between units. UL 9540A is the consensus test method that helps prove systems comply with fire safety standards.

Who can benefit from energy storage testing & certification services?

We provide a range of energy storage testing and certification services. These services benefit end users, such as electrical utility companies and commercial businesses, producers of energy storage systems, and supply chain companies that provide components and systems, such as inverters, solar panels, and batteries, to producers.

Are energy storage systems safe?

There is a responsibility to guarantee the safety of these systems, not only for daily operation but also in the face of adverse conditions or unforeseen events. Fire hazards, thermal runaway, and other risks associated with energy storage systems must be thoroughly understood and mitigated to ensure public safety and prevent costly incidents.

Can energy storage systems cause a fire?

Increased deployment of energy storage systems has led to field failures in past years, heightening awareness of the dangers of thermal runaway. As this technology moves closer to our homes and places of work, battery manufacturers need to consider and evaluate the likelihood of fire propagation.

What is a DC energy storage system?

ANSI/CAN/UL 9540:2023 (Third Edition) specifically describes DC Energy Storage Systems (DC ESS) where the inverter and charger are not part of the DC ESS. This requires that the DC ESS not rely on any external system (e.g. inverter) to provide required "Protective Functions".

Can ESS installations have a larger capacity or a smaller separation distance?

However, the codes allowed ESS installations with larger capacities or smaller separation distances when approved by the code authority using large-scale fire and fault condition testing results from an approved testing laboratory.

UL 9540A Battery Energy Storage System (ESS) Test Method. Battery explosions and fires are a serious concern. Fire safety requirements have been updated in the latest model code requirements for ESS installations. Learn about our new ...

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