

Regulatory Compliance

ANSI/NEMA FL1 - New Standards Help Users Compare Flashlight Performance

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The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) has published **ANSI/PLATO FL 1-2009** Flashlight Basic Performance Standard. It is the first flashlight standard worldwide and introduces definitions and testing methods for flashlight basic performance as well as associated marking. It focuses on directional lighting, not lanterns or area lighting.

ANSI/NEMA FL 1 introduces a uniform way of defining, measuring, and marking basic flashlight performance. The clearly defined test methods and marking rules will help retailers and consumers gain a clearer understanding of the performance provided by a given product.



PEAK BEAM INTENSITY:

The maximum luminous intensity typically along the central axis of a cone of light. This measures the brightest part of the beam. The value is reported in candela.



BEAM DISTANCE:

The distance from the device at which the light beam is 0.25 lux. Results are reported in meters.



IMPACT RESISTANCE:

The degree to which a portable light resists damage when dropped on a solid surface. Dropped samples must not exhibit any cracks or breaks, and must remain fully functional in order to pass the Impact Resistance test.



RUN TIME:

The duration of time from the initial light output value (that's 30 seconds after the light is turned on with fresh batteries) until the light output drops to 10% of the initial value.



LIGHT OUTPUT:

A measurement of the total quantity of emitted overall light energy. The value is reported in lumens.



WATER RESISTANCE:

There are three tests that measure water resistance: Resistance to Temporary Immersion in Water Resistance to Continuous Immersion in Water Resistance to Splashing Water

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