



Mr. Peeyush Gupta

Director – Sales and Marketing, UL

“GreenPro certification helps in the selection of the right products, materials and technologies for construction of green buildings irrespective of the Green building certification programme the organization follows”

Energetica India speaks to Mr. Peeyush Gupta, Director – Sales and Marketing, UL to learn about UL’s services & achievements in India and also about CII’s GreenPro, a Green Product Certification.

ENERGETICA INDIA: Please let our readers know some of UL’s achievements in field of renewable energy, energy efficiency and smart cities in and outside India?

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: UL offers a suite of services that helps owner operators, developers, financiers, EPC’s, insurers and manufactures manage risks associated with building and operating a PV plant or a wind farm. We help manage risks by providing technical information and data for energy yield assessments, technical due diligence and measurements and inspection. Our extensive and flexible service portfolio covers needs that include project planning, construction, ongoing operation and maintenance. UL works to advance global sustainability by supporting the growth and development of en-

vironment friendly products, services and organizations.

As we move towards building smart cities, we embrace newer technologies. Through our work over the last 120 years, we have pioneered an approach to address the risk that is inherent in progress. We make new technologies functional, reliable and safe. UL’s role in Smart Cities is taking safety and quality to the next level, by taking a lead role in getting industry stakeholders together and agreeing on minimum standards for smart buildings, networks, transactions and other elements of a smart city.

ENERGETICA INDIA: What kind of projects is UL currently working on the above mentioned fields in India?

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: UL is committed to assisting Indian manufacturers in their efforts to develop energy-efficient, safer and more reliable products. The expanding Indian economy is fuelling rapid growth in energy use, calling for increase in generation capacity alongside efforts to conserve energy. Energy-efficient appliances and products are essential in optimizing available energy resources. UL’s investment in the energy efficiency testing labs is testimony to our support of government efforts in safeguarding our environment while enabling economic growth.

UL is one the first companies to work closely with Indian Renewable energy industry with a fully equipped laboratory for testing PV equipment’s and low voltage switchgears. The UL PV Centre of Excel-

lence in Bangalore is the largest PV test facility in the country accredited by National Accreditation Body for Laboratories (NABL) and is approved by MNRE, TEDA, UPNE-DA, GEDA and several other government agencies like BIS, BEE, RDSO and TEC. UL also offers third party inspection services to the energy sector starting from PV power plant verification to power performance verification of wind farms. Recently UL launched its highly specialized Solar Water Pump testing facility in Bangalore, India. Equipped with highly sophisticated and robust test equipment, the facility is approved by MNRE to conduct testing of solar PV water pumps to be used in agricultural irrigation purposes within the country. The PV array simulator technology at UL drastically reduces the testing time to a single day.

UL also has a dedicated energy efficiency testing laboratory at Manesar, Gurgaon. The independent laboratory provides energy efficiency and performance testing for Indian manufacturers in line with the Star labeling program of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Government of India. The 18,000-sqft.-lab is the first in India equipped with state-of-the-art testing, verification, design and product development facilities to help manufacturers in the LED lighting and HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) industries develop and test energy-efficient, better-performing and safer products.

UL is well equipped to help manufacturers adhere to BEE stipulations by providing a range of testing and certification processes. UL helps regulatory bodies like the Bureau of energy efficiency (BEE), EESL, and Municipal Utility Corporations in not only understanding the regulatory framework but also in developing the implementation mechanism for those regulations.

ENERGETICA INDIA: What kind of opportunities do you see for UL in India's journey towards smart cities encompassing energy efficiency and renewable energy?

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: As cities embrace new technologies, they will need to find a balance between benefiting from these innovations and managing new safety, security, privacy and performance risks.

UL will play a vital role in promoting renewable energy in the smart city project

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and would ensure quality smart grids that will be a part of smart city plans for supply of renewable energy like solar and wind power.

With safety and security being extremely critical for any smart-city project, UL in India is all set to get aligned with the Government and key stakeholders to work together and take this initiative to completion.

ENERGETICA INDIA: What kind of role is UL playing in India's first expected smart city at Visakhapatnam?

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: UL is going to play a definitive role in realizing India's smart-city dream. In the urban development projects UL can validate, test, inspect, and conduct audits on various safety standards of the buildings that come up in Vizag. In addition, UL can also help ensure the security of a multipurpose card, a key characteristic of the smart-city concept that will be used by citizens in their daily activities. UL is also implementing all-purpose cards globally across various cities which can be used as a metro card as well as in grocery stores.

ENERGETICA INDIA: UL has joined CII's GreenPro, a Green Product Certification, as a knowledge partner. Please let our readers know more about GreenPro and UL's role in this.

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: GreenPro certification is designed in such a fashion that it evaluates how green is a product at elemental level and goes deeper into the true aspect of sustainability. It helps in the selection of the right products, materials and technologies for construction of green buildings irrespective of the Green building certification programme the organization follows. Green certification is at two levels – products that go into making the build-

ing and the building itself. For a building to be green, it's also necessary that the elements that go in to it must also be green. UL is the knowledge partner and supports GreenPro in product standard development. A third party validation based on life cycle assessment approach builds credibility of the product and provides a level playing field helping manufacturers to look at products in a holistic approach. It helps architects and builders choose products with confidence.

ENERGETICA INDIA: Please share your thoughts on solar reaching grid parity in India

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: The solar space has already seen a significant decline in tariffs. India Ratings expects a strong pick-up in solar power installations over the next 4-5 years, driven both by the government impetus of 100 GW of solar power by 2021-22 (60 GW through grid connected solar projects) and a decline in solar power generation costs. These factors will increase the affordability of solar power for distribution companies and eliminate the requirement of government support by way of subsidies or viability gap funding (VGF); however with the decline in cost there should be a caution for reliable high quality equipment use and maintenance.

ENERGETICA INDIA: Please elaborate on the testing solutions offered by UL to India's solar market

MR. PEEYUSH GUPTA: UL offers an entire range of services to the power sector that includes testing and certification of photovoltaic equipments, low voltage switchgears, wind turbines, wind farms, energy efficiency testing for LED and HVAC equipments. Our flexible component testing options can help determine which components optimize the energy efficiency of a product.

UL tests products to a broad range of energy efficiency standards, including the following: NRCAN, CEC, ENERGY STAR®, DOE, CRRC, CONUEE, ErP, and MEPS. We have EPA-recognized testing laboratories around the world that can perform qualification and verification testing on 37 ENERGY STAR® product categories and we are an EPA-recognized certification body for 39 product categories ◀◀