OMNI-Test Laboratories, Inc.

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Sources of Revenue and Information on Fees Charged to Applicants and Suppliers of Certified Products

O-TL's Sources of Revenue

OMNI-Test Laboratories, Inc. (O-TL) is a small business. O-TL's primary source of revenue is from the fees paid for services rendered.

Product Evaluation

The fees charged for product evaluation are a function of the number and types of standards against which the product is evaluated/tested. Additional fees (charges) accrue, if the applicant has O-TL evaluate the product to additional optional test configurations (e.g., reduced corner clearances). Also, additional fees accrue, if retesting is required due to the product failing a test criterion or other circumstance outside of O-TL's control. Screening tests are optional and the fees for screening tests accrue according to the number and types of test runs.

An initial evaluation of the installation and operation manuals for the product is included in the initial product certification services. If these documents require substantial correction, such that O-TL must review several editions or provide technical writing/editing support, then additional fees will accrue and be invoiced.

Quality System Evaluation

Concurrent with or subsequent to the product evaluation, O-TL will evaluate the quality system governing the manufacture of the product. This involves an evaluation of the applicants' quality system, as well as an in-plant inspection of the manufacturing facilities and the implementation of the quality system. Based on the product evaluation O-TL will generate a Factory Inspection Manual that consists of the following: 1) an Appliance Design and/or Manufacturing Change Report; 2) a complete set of O-TL stamped component and assembly drawings; 3) a copy of the listing label; 4) a copy of the manual; and 5) a component list (or bill of materials).

The fee for conducting the in-plant inspection accrues on a time and materials basis. The primary factor affecting the fee/cost is the adequacy of the applicant's existing manufacturing quality control program.

Certification Fees

There are minimum fee(s) (Safety and/or EPA) that is/are charged annually for listing products on OMNI's Product Listing Directory (PLD). The revenue generated from annual listing fees support the costs associated with responding to certification inquiries related to the products on the O-TL PLD, that O-TL receives from customers, consumers, code officials, EPA, and other regulatory agencies and jurisdictions.

Label fees (for the certification label that must be affixed to each certified product) are invoiced separately, on a monthly basis. The revenue generated from label fees is used to support the cost of operating the label control program required under O-TL's certification systems.

Surveillance Fees

Announced follow-up inspections of the supplier's manufacturing facilities and/or of certified products at the point of distribution are conducted at least annually to assure that there is continuing conformance with the requirements of certification. Unannounced inspections or even retesting may be conducted at any time, if O-TL determines that it is necessary to augment the announced follow-up inspection program in order to assure conformance, or if a regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction or accrediting body directs O-TL to conduct additional inspections or retesting to resolve a concern or complaint.

In addition to charges for time, materials, and travel for each inspection; there is a base Quality Control System inspection fee, and Product inspection fee(s). Please note: If a code official, regulatory authority or accrediting body determines that it is necessary to witness an inspection or to conduct or witness retesting of a certified product and the party ordering the inspection or retest has the authority to recover its costs, these costs shall be paid by the supplier of the certified product.