# Intertek/ETL Verification Method

**How to check the validity of ETL Certificates**

Intertek is the largest testing organization in the world, with more than 43,000 employees in 1,000 locations in over 100 countries.
More information can be found in http://www.intertek.com/about/.

One of the many different Intertek activities involves verification of LAN cables and cabling products under the **ETL Verified** mark. Detailed information on this program can be found here:
http://www.intertek.com/cabling-products/.

A detailed list of all ETL Verified products is published periodically and can be always downloaded from here:
http://www.intertek.com/ETL-Verified-Directory/Cabling-Products/Product-Directory/Files/Program-Directory/

There are few additional independent test houses in the world, each having its own verification methods, follow-up schedules and certificate design.

For example, Delta-Force (Denmark) sends its own people to the production site, selects follow-up samples once a year and issues a new certificate each time the product is re-tested, if the product passes the required limits.
In this method each certificate indicates its expiring date.
Intertek/ETL has locally appointed inspectors which randomly select follow-up samples 4 times a year, but the original certificate is not modified. This way, the date indicated on the ETL certificate is the date in which it was originally issued. In cases where the certificate was modified, also the date of modification is indicated.
In simple words: The ETL certificates do not have an expiring date, but they are cancelled whenever the supplier pulls out a product from the follow-up program, or when the sample tested does not comply with the relevant component standard limits.

> *But one feature is identical in all the 3<sup>rd</sup> party test houses:*
> *Valid certificates must be available online, at the website of the verifying bodies.*
> *This is essential, because even certificates that bear a recent date may have been cancelled by the verification body due to inconsistency, failed samples or fraud.*

Bottom line:
*The ONLY way to verify that a certain certificate is valid is to check if it is available at the website of the verifying body.*
*Any document which is not available online is not valid, regardless of the dates indicated in it.*
*Any document which is available online is valid, regardless of the dates indicated in it.*

All AT&T Cabling Systems ETL certificates are always available in
http://www.intertek.com/ETL-Verified-Directory/Cabling-Products/ATT-Cabling-Systems/AT-T-Cabling-Systems/