

SnapNrack UL 2703 Fire Classification

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As of January 1st, 2015 many jurisdictions are now enforcing codes based upon updates to the International Building Code (IBC) and UL Standards 1703 (modules) and 2703 (mounting systems). The language included in the 2012 and 2018 IBC requires that the combination of roof mounted solar modules and racking components is to be considered a system (IBC Section 1509.7.2). Additionally, it requires that this system shall meet or exceed the fire classification of the roof assembly.

The objective is to ensure that the PV system does not adversely affect the fire rating of the roof. Roof surface fire ratings are classified either A, B, or C; Class A being the most resistant to the spread of flame.

Since the physical characteristics of the PV module (material, thickness of glass, etc) also potentially affect how a fire will act, modules are now tested and assigned a “type” based upon these characteristics and spread of flame test results. There are 15 total module types, Types 1, 2 and 3 represent differences in the module composition and Types 4 - 15 are the same module compositions as Types 1 - 3 with differing fire test performance.



SnapNrack Series 100, Ultra Rail and RL systems have been Certified for a Class A fire rating with Type 1 and Type 2 modules, in accordance with the standards set forth in UL1703/2703 and IBC 2012. In order to maintain this classification, the SnapNrack mounting systems must be installed per the UL-approved [Installation Manuals](#). Because the test was conducted with the modules at 5 inches from the roof surface (worst case scenario), there is no restriction to the standoff height.

Attachment 1 is the SnapNrack QIMS File which is accessed through the UL Online Certification Directory, or available here: [SnapNrack QIMS File](#).