

# PROPER APPLICATION OF STEEL BEAM LOAD RESTRICTION FACTORS TO UL DESIGNS

**AS AN UPDATE** to the “UL Design Considerations” article (October 2015, available at [www.modernsteel.com](http://www.modernsteel.com)), following is the latest from Underwriters Laboratories. This and subsequent information will continue to be available at [www.aisc.org/ULclarity](http://www.aisc.org/ULclarity).

Underwriters Laboratories (UL), the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) and the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) have been collaborating to provide answers and solutions to questions that have been raised about the need for load restriction factors with UL Designs. We have identi-

ed a number of clarifications and updates that will be made in UL Guide BXUV, as well as in UL Designs themselves. We jointly offer the following summary so that the information is known and can be used now, while UL updates their documents.

Recent testing conducted by UL for AISI and AISC provides for the following conclusions related to application of load restriction factors to UL Designs for steel beams in US practice:

**1. Load restriction factors for steel beams need not be applied to any UL Design that is based upon strength calculated using the 2005 or 2010 AISC Specification.** Table 1 below shows the UL (and ULC) Designs that meet this condition.

**2. Load restriction factors for steel beams need not be applied to any other UL Design if an unrestrained beam rating is used.** Unrestrained beam ratings are determined using a limiting temperature criterion of 1,100 °F and a load mainte-

