

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING A STORAGE UNIT WITHIN A PRODUCT FAMILY

Recently the working group “Methods” (coordinated by Catas) of the UNI Technical Commission “Furniture” submitted to the public inquiry phase a standard whose purpose is to provide indications for choosing, within a product family, the most unfavorable cases to be tested, in order to determine performances that can be considered significant not only for the product itself, but also for the range of products included in the family.

The positive outcome of a test carried out on the most unfavorable configuration, therefore, guarantees that the other variants of the product will perform no worse than the parameter under consideration and therefore meet the set requirement.

But what is the difference between “**product**” and “**product family**”?

1. **Products:** a set of manufactured specimens with the same characteristics, performance and construction details, identified by a code or trade name.
2. **Product family:** set of products that possess similar characteristics (same materials, same accessories, same construction system and same manufacturing process).

The methods by which the sampling plan for container furniture with the same characteristics is defined are as follows:

1. The cabinet that has the most unfavorable configuration for stability;
2. The largest cabinet that is, or can be placed, at a height of 950 mm or less;
3. The largest cabinet that is, or can be placed, at a height of more than 950 mm;
4. The cabinet with wheels that has the largest load capacity;
5. The largest wall-mounted cabinet;
6. The largest cabinet which has no wall fixing device;
7. The shelf with the largest distance between supports (including the bottom);
8. The shelf with the largest loadable area placed at a height considered hazardous by the referenced standard;
9. The clothes rail with the largest distance between supports;
10. The door producing the highest load at its hinges;
11. The largest horizontal roll-up door;
12. The largest horizontal axis sliding door;
13. The largest folding door;
14. The roll-up door on larger vertical axis;
15. The largest extensible element;





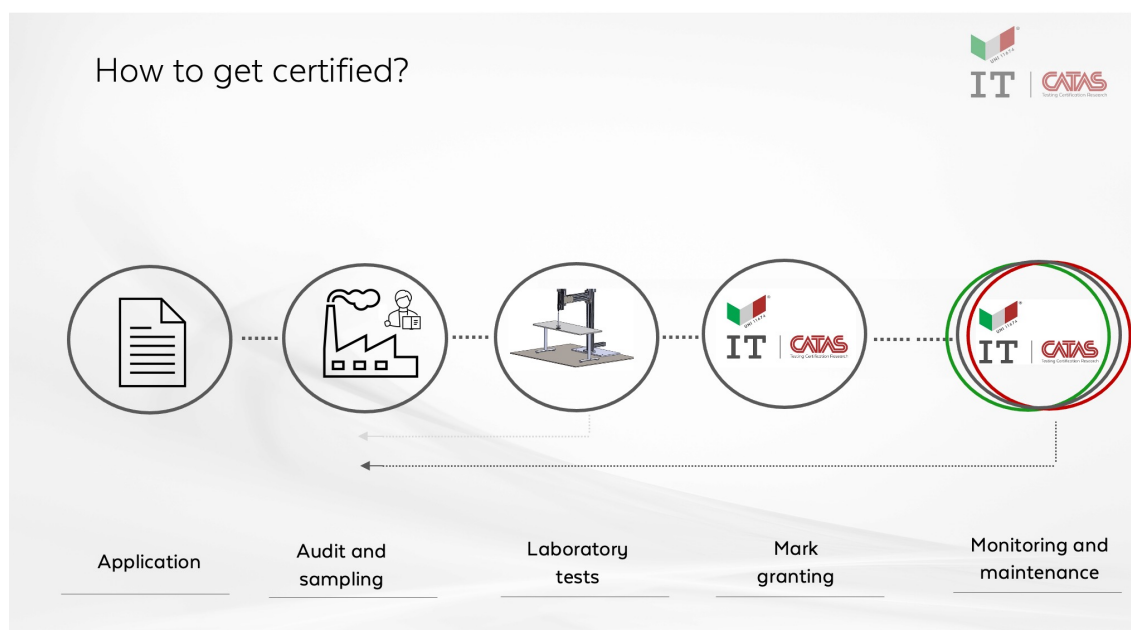
16. The extendable element whose relationship between load capacity and height above the floor is considered hazardous by the referenced standard;
17. One tray of each type;
18. Each type of coat rack present in the cabinet.

It is important to know that if different types of hinges, wheels, rails, pistons, etc. are used, it will be necessary to provide the laboratory with each type of component assembled on the most unfavorable configuration listed above.

SAMPLING FOR STORAGE UNITS UNDER THE BRAND NAME "ITALIAN FURNITURE ORIGIN" BY CATAS



Among the Catas Quality Award certifications referred to finished products in greater development in recent years, the certification "Italian origin of furniture" has had a significant increase due to the evolution of market needs. This certification is based on a national standard (UNI 11674:2017) that defines the process and



product requirements and on a technical specification containing a unique procedure that allows to declare the Italian origin of furniture through objective elements: both products and product families are certifiable. Certifying a product family therefore guarantees producers an attestation valid for all the catalogs for which the mark is requested, with the performance of only those tests that the laboratory considers most representative.

PRACTICAL EXAMPLE:

Let's assume then that four series of kitchens whose construction characteristics are the same, are subject to certification: in this case, having ascertained that the process requirements have been met, the Catas reference staff will proceed with a sampling based on the guidelines listed above and will request from the manufacturer only some furniture to be tested for safety (according to EN 14749:2016) and performance (according to UNI 11663:2017).

SERIES 1	SERIES 2	SERIES 3	SERIES 4
Wall hanging unit width60 with vertical pivoted door	Wall hanging unit width120 with flap	Wall hanging unit width90	Wall hanging unit for dish drainer width60 with 180° opening hinges
Floor standing unit with drawers width 120	Floor standing unit with shelf width90	Wall hanging unit width90 with flap and two hinges	Wall hanging unit width90 with flap + two hinges and two gas spring
		Fridge storage unit L.45	

In conclusion, certifying the “Italian origin of furniture” for several catalogs according to the criteria we have mentioned, affirms the geographic origin and quality in terms of process and product, enriched by the values of competence and experience matured during the history of Catas.

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