Explanation of the acronyms TUV, FM, UL, and CARB

TUV stands for (Technischer Überwachungsverein, English translation: Technical Inspection Association). But the actual name of the organization has become obscure through the ages especially since the organization has developed an international reputation. The acronym of TUV only relates well to the German name. Even to complicate things more there are several TUVs. For Justrite safety cans, TUV SÜD is being used. It is much simpler to just say TUV, that is how they refer to themselves. You would be hard pressed to find Technischer Überwachungsverein or Technical Inspection Association mentioned anywhere on TUV SÜD website.

These same challenges are why Underwriters Laboratories is referred to globally as UL and FM Global (previously called Factory Mutual) is referred to simply as FM. The UL/ULC listing for Justrite safety cans means they have been tested and Listed by Underwriters Laboratories in the United States and Canada.

You will also notice the GS Mark right next to the TUV Mark on each Safety Can. The GS Mark indicates that it was tested and complies with the minimum requirements of the German Equipment and Product Safety Act or GPSG. The GS is an acronym for Geprüfte Sicherheit. The GS Mark stands for Safety Tested and is a licensed mark of the German government. It may only be issued by an accredited product safety testing and certification agency such as TUV.

The GS Mark symbolizes safety and quality to German consumers and manufacturers alike -- much like FM or UL in the USA. Third-party testing by these types of agencies provides customers the assurance that products have undergone performance testing and meets design specifications.

**FM** = FM Global Tested and Approved

**UL/ULC** = Underwriters Laboratories Listed in the U.S. and Canada

**TÜV** = TÜV Technical Inspection Association Certified

**CARB** = accepted under California Air Resource Board