1991 No. 266

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weighing Equipment (Non-automatic Weighing Machines) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991

Made	*24th June 1991*
Coming into operation . .	*1st August 1991*

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The Department of Economic Development, in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 9(1) and (3), 10(6) and 13(1) of the Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) and now vested in it(**b**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

PART I

GENERAL

Citation, commencement and revocation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Weighing Equipment (Non-automatic Weighing Machines) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 and shall come into operation on 1st August 1991.

(2) The Regulations set out in Schedule 5 are hereby revoked to the extent specified in column 3.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations—

"accelerating machine" means a machine which provides an indication by switching from one state of rest to the other;

"accuracy classification" means classification as a Class I, Class II, Class III or Class IIII machine in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2;

"additive tare device" means a tare device which does not intrude upon any of the weighing ranges of the weight indicating and printing devices with which it is associated;

"analogue" means capable of assigning any value or position within a continuous range;

(**a**) S.I. 1981/231 (N.I. 10)
(**b**) By S.I. 1982/846 (N.I. 11) Art. 4

"approved minimum load" means the minimum load which a machine is authorised to weigh;

"approved pattern" means a pattern in respect of which a certificate of approval granted or deemed to have been granted under Article 10 of the Order is in force;

"automatic catchweight weighing machine" means an automatic weighing machine which determines but does not regulate the mass of individual items;

"automatic weighing machine" means weighing equipment that includes a machine which accomplishes a weighing operation without intervention by an operator and which sets in motion an automatic process characteristic of the machine;

"automatic zero tracking device" means a device which is designed to correct small, slow changes within the zero-setting range of the machine;

"ballast" means any of the materials to which the expression ballast applies in Schedule 4 to the Order;

"certificate of approval" means a certificate of approval of a pattern of weighing equipment granted or renewed by the Department of Economic Development under Articles 10 and 11 of the Order or any instrument having effect under Article 11(5) of the Order as if it were a certificate of approval so granted on 4th April 1979 or a certificate of approval of a pattern of weighing equipment deemed under Article 10(8) of the Order to have been granted and published under the provisions of the said Article 10;

"counting machine" means a machine which, by weighing articles of uniform size and composition—

(*a*) determines the number of such articles placed on or removed from its load receptor, or

(*b*) detects when a pre-determined number of such articles has been placed on or removed from its load receptor;

"customer check weighing machine" means a non-automatic weighing machine which, in accordance with Article 5(3)(*a*) of the Order, is made available for use for trade by any prospective buyer of goods so that he may check their weight before purchasing them;

"device for interpolation of reading" means a device which subdivides without special adjustment the weight scale of an indicating device;

"digital" means capable of assigning only certain discrete values or positions within a continuous range by a series of discontinuous steps;

"first part of the range" means that part of the weighing range defined, in verification scale intervals according to the accuracy classification of the machine, by the Table in Schedule 4;

"graduated" means having its operating range subdivided into one or more continuous series of scale intervals;

"level indicating device" means a device which indicates when the structure to which it is attached is tilted away from its correct operating position;

"live part" means a part of a machine which, when a force is applied to it, could cause an alteration of the indicated or printed value;

"load receptor" means a part of a machine on which loads are placed for the purpose of their being weighed;

"locking device" means a device which engages a live part or parts of a machine to prevent relative movement between live parts and the frame or casing of the machine;

"mark of EEC initial verification" means the mark described in paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) Regulations 1988(**a**);

"maximum capacity" means the greatest load which a weight indicating or printing device is constructed to indicate or print, as the case may be, when all associated tare devices are set to zero;

"maximum load" means the sum of the maximum capacity plus the maximum of any additive tare;

"metrological characteristics" mean those operational characteristics of a machine which are evaluated during testing of the machine in accordance with the appropriate provisions of regulation 36 and Schedule 3;

"multiple weighing" means determining the mass of a load by totalising the results of more than one static weighing operation during each of which the load is only partially supported by the load receptor;

"non-automatic weighing machine" means weighing equipment that includes a machine which accomplishes a weighing operation and which requires the intervention of an operator during the weighing process, especially to deposit loads on, or remove loads from, the load receptor and also to determine the result of the weighing process, and for the purposes of these Regulations shall include a weigh-price-labeller;

"non-self indicating machine" means a machine in which the position of equilibrium is obtained entirely by the intervention of an operator;

"notice of examination" means a notice of examination caused to be published by the Secretary of State or, as the case may be, the Department giving particulars of a pattern in respect of which a certificate of approval has been granted;

"the Order" means the Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order 1981;

"prescribed limits of error" has the meaning set out in regulation 37;

"published particulars" means, in relation to an approved pattern, the particulars of the approved pattern which are published under section 12 of the Weights and Measures Act 1985(**b**) or Article 10 of the Order;

(**a**) S.I. 1988/186 as amended by S.I. 1988/1128
(**b**) 1985 c. 72