1970. No. 102 **[C]**

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Marking and Abbreviations of Units of Measurement

REGULATIONS, DATED 14TH MAY 1970, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE UNDER SECTIONS 8 AND 15 OF THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1967.

The Ministry of Commerce, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by sections 8(1) and 15(4) of the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(a) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and of all other powers 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 Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations of Units of Measurement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970 and shall come into operation on 14th May 1970.

(2) The Weights and Measures (Marking) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(b) and the Weights and Measures (Abbreviations of Units of Measurement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(c) are hereby revoked.

PART II

ABBREVIATIONS OF UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Use for trade of abbreviation of units of measurement

2. This Part shall apply as respects the use for trade (other than for the purpose of marking weighing and measuring equipment) of symbols for, and abbreviations of, units of measurement.

3.—(1) Any symbol or abbreviation set out in Schedule 1, or that symbol or abbreviation with the letter "s" added thereto where it is thought appropriate to indicate the plural, may be used for trade to indicate the relevant unit of measurement so set out:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall permit the addition of the letter "s" in relation to any symbol for, or abbreviation of, any metric unit set out in column 2 of Part I of Schedule 1 if the marking is applied after 31st December 1971.

(2) No symbol or abbreviation other than such a symbol or abbreviation as may be usable by virtue of paragraph (1) shall be used for trade to indicate any unit of measurement set out in the said Schedule.

(a) 1967. c. 6 (N.I.).
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 219.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 220.

PART III

MARKING

Marking of Containers

4. This Part shall apply as respects the manner of marking any container required by any provision of Schedule 2, 4, 5 or 6 of the Act to be marked with information as to the quantity of goods made up therein.

5.—(1) The marking shall include the number of the relevant units of measurement (which may be or include a vulgar or decimal fraction of a single unit) expressed in words or figures and a reference to that unit either by words or by means of any symbol or abbreviation which may lawfully be used pursuant to Part II.

(2) Any indication of quantity by gross weight shall include the word "gross" or the words "including container" or other words which indicate that the marked weight includes the weight of the container.

(3) No abbreviation of the word "net" or "gross" shall be employed in any marking.

(4) Fractions shall not be expressed in a manner in which the figures are likely to be read as referring to whole units.

Imperial and metric units

6.—(1) In the case of perfumes and toilet preparations other than soap, the marking may be by quantity in metric or imperial units or both.

(2) In the case of any goods other than goods to which paragraph (1) applies, the marking shall be by quantity in imperial units but may, in addition, include an indication of quantity in metric units.

(3) Where goods are marked with indications of quantity in both imperial and metric units, the indications shall be distinct but in close proximity to each other.

Position of Markings etc.

7.—(1) A marking shall be clear, legible and conspicuous.

(2) A marking shall be in a prominent position in which it can be read easily and shall not be obscured in any way whether by a stamp, sticker, outer wrapping or otherwise.

(3) In the case of any container other than—

(i) a food container, or

(ii) a container of any such toilet preparations as are described in paragraph 1(*c*) of Part V of Schedule 5 to the Act (preparations for external use other than perfumes, toilet waters, preparations for the hair and scalp and soap),

the marking shall not be solely on the base of the container if there is other wording on or visible through the container.

(4) A marking which is not upon the actual container or on a label securely attached thereto shall be so placed that it cannot be removed without opening the container.