



**23rd APLMF Meeting
Tokyo, Japan**

Economy Report 2016

New Zealand

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SECTION 1 – Organisation and structure for metrology

Organisation Structures

Specialty	Scientific metrology	Legal metrology
Organisation	Callaghan Innovation	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)
Business Unit	Measurement Standards Laboratory	Trading Standards
Manager	Fleur Francois	Stephen O'Brien
Location(s)	Wellington	Head office – Wellington Primary Laboratory – Auckland Secondary Laboratory – Wellington & Christchurch

Relevant organisations

- [Ministry for Primary Industries](#) – Food Hygiene, increase sustainable resource use, and protect New Zealand from biological risk
- [Ministry of Transport](#) – Taxi meters
- [Maritime NZ](#) – Maritime safety (SOLAS)
- [Medsafe](#) – Medical Devices
- [Electricity Authority](#) - Electric vehicle charging stations

Legislative Frameworks

Primary Legislation - Weights and Measures Act 1987

Secondary Legislation - Weights and Measures Regulations 1999

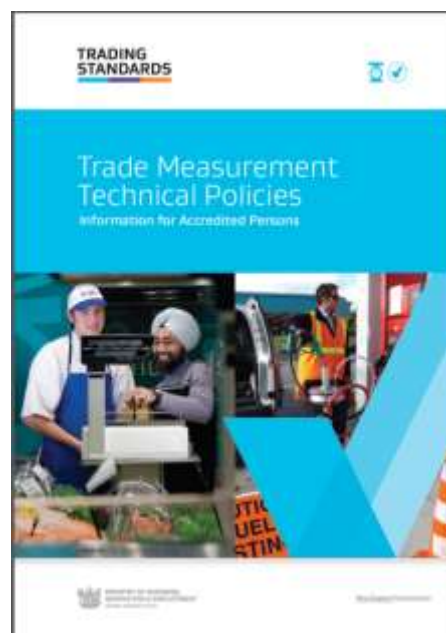
Legislative changes – hygiene updates to the Weights and Measures Act

Minor updates to the Weights and Measures Act have been proposed to improve operation and capture. It is not expected to have major impact on the operation of legal metrology but will ensure that terminology and language is contemporary. For example the updates will include the relatively new trading practise in New Zealand where traders either hire or lease a weighing or measuring instrument for trade use instead of purchasing. The update will include situations where the instrument hired or leased is found to be non-compliant.

Trade Measurement – Technical Policies

Since the introduction of the accreditation scheme in 1991, Trading Standards has released numerous technical policies and decisions in relation to how an instrument is set up and tested. The majority of these were to provide clarity on technical issues on the verification and certification of instruments that were not included in the Act. The policies were normally based on requirements already detailed in OIML Recommendations, for example auxiliary devices and printed and stored information.

All previously released technical policies in relation to the testing and examination of weighing and measuring instruments have been reviewed and revised into a single technical document for our Accredited Persons (approved verifiers).



International arrangements and engagement

Hosted Chinese Society of Measurement

In January 2016, Trading Standards hosted a delegation of three senior officials from the Chinese Society of Measurement (CSM) to exchange information and identify areas of possible future co-operation. CSM has a membership of 8,500 individuals who represent universities, test laboratories, industry and regulators. The meeting was productive and it was useful to exchange information on the methods used by both organisations to raise the profile of metrology.

Technical Advisor represents NZ at OIML R117

The Technical Committee members met in Delft, Netherlands to review OIML R117:2007, an international recommendation for 'Dynamic Measuring Systems for Liquid other than Water'. This standard covers the approval requirements for liquid measuring systems such as, fuel dispensers, milk meters, compressed gas and cryogenic liquids.

A total of 30 participants including evaluation authorities and private manufacturers took part in the project group meeting.

The review was carried out with an aim to achieve full agreement and compatibility between all three parts of the recommendation and to ensure current and emerging technologies are included. The members also discussed the possibility to detail test procedures for the complete measuring systems.

Trading Standards contributed towards the clarification of the software requirements, direct sales with public, blending dispensers and milk measuring instruments.

SECTION 2 – Key activities of 2015/16

Working with industry

Chicken industry – fluid is not meat

Trading Standards has been in dialogue with the Poultry Industry of New Zealand for over a year now discussing whether the fluid that has exuded from the poultry after it has been packed forms part of the net quantity statement.

Water and other processing aids are added for hygiene and technical purposes during manufacture. Chicken meat will naturally absorb this water during processing; however manufacturers are required to allow suitable drip time post processing for this fluid to expel.

A sampling project was conducted in supermarkets and found fluid accounted for up to 8% of the weight of whole chickens and 12% of chicken breasts. This is fluid which has either pooled in the packaging or absorbed into a soaker pad.

Trading Standards is of the position that this fluid is not considered meat and should therefore not be included in the net quantity statement.

There are a number of reasons to support this:

- The fluid is not considered meat according to the definition of meat within the Australia / New Zealand Food Standards Code, as the fluid includes water and other processing aids
- The product is named 'chicken' as opposed to 'chicken and fluid'
- The fluid is not considered a food
 - To fall within the definition of food in the Act and Regulations, something must be either *used* or *represented for use* as a food or drink. It will also include any *constituent* of that food or drink, or anything that is intended to be mixed with or added to any food or drink
- An ordinary consumer would not consider that chicken fluid is to be used as food
- When a soaker pad is used to absorb fluid, that has exuded from the meat, the fluid is rendered unusable by a consumer
- The Poultry Industry association preparation video advises to dry the chicken with a paper towel before cooking

Trading Standards has been in consultation with the industry association, who represent the major poultry manufacturers in New Zealand, to seek voluntary compliance, however the association is maintaining an opposing position.

Trading Standard is now looking to:

- Survey consumers
- Conduct another sampling exercise, which is followed up with full Average Quantity Inspections where non-compliance is detected

Trading Standards is eager to see this matter resolved amicably without commencing legal action.

Engaging with industry associations

Trading Standards continue to engage with industry associations to filter information and news to their members. An example includes being asked to present at the annual NZ Wine Industry Association meeting to discuss international marking requirements.

Retail Meat NZ, an association that represents 85% of all meat products sold by retail, have included information on weights and measures in their newsletters and are also introducing elements of complying with the weights and measures requirements into their apprentice butcher scheme.

Protecting consumers**Ministry of Transport (MOT) review how taxis operate in New Zealand**

The MOT released a consultation paper which proposed to move away from requiring taxi meters to be verified and to adopt an approach based on fair negotiation and contract between the customer and the taxi driver or adopting an 'Uber' style system.

Trading Standards held a meeting with the MOT policy makers and presented the internationally recognised system for approving taxi meters, verifying them and also highlighted the potential for consumers to be disadvantaged if the taxi meter could not be relied upon for accurately recording the fare.

The MOT is continuing to develop this policy but early indications is that it will specify that where a taxi meter is present; it must be sealed and verified to recognised standards.

Major projects - What we did, and what we learned

Shipping containers now need a verified weight using a trade approved and verified instrument

All shipping containers for export from New Zealand must have a verified weight before they can be loaded on a ship. This follows an amendment to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) which came into force on July 1 2016.

Shippers are responsible for providing the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) of the container on the shipping documents. The Ship's Master cannot allow it to be loaded without this information. The requirement for a VGM is intended to protect the safety of ships and seafarers.

Two methods for determining the VGM are available. Method 1 where the whole packed container is weighed, the VGM must be determined on a trade approved weighing instrument that is verified and certified. Where either a class III or IIII weighing instruments is used, a maximum scale division of no greater than 50 kg is permitted and for class YB, a maximum scale division of 100 kg. Method 2 provides a method where the shipper can weigh all the contents of the container and sum that with the tare weight of the container.

This has seen an increase in the number of instruments submitted for approval in New Zealand. The following weighing systems have been approved by Trading Standards due to the introduction of SOLAS:

Roller Scale



Weigh Pads – Container Weighing System



Container Weighing System



Reach Stacker Weighing System



Toplift Container Weighing System



Toplift Container Weighing System



Straddle Carrier Weighing System



Fork Weighing System



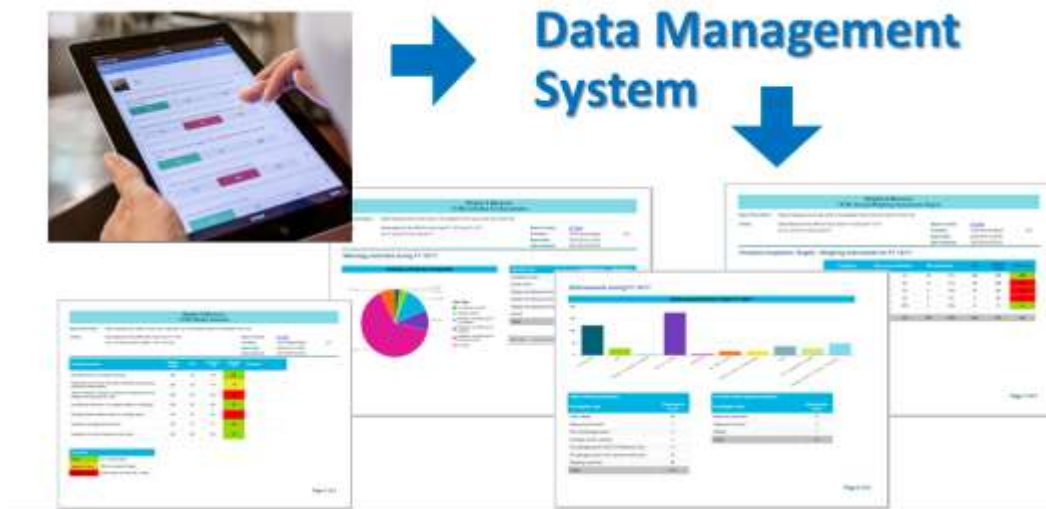
Weighing System on Flatrack



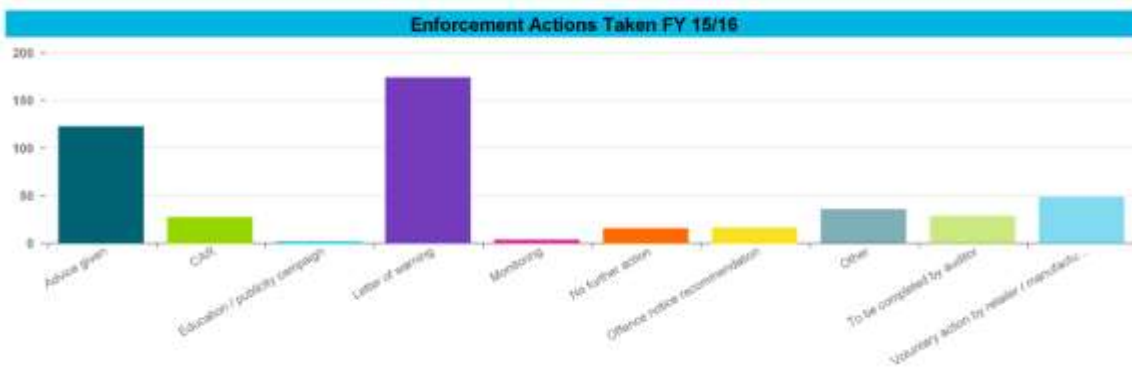
Trading Standards introduce an automated reporting system

During an inspection, Inspectors will capture the data on an ipad application called ‘I-auditor’ that was introduced last year. This year a project was completed to automatically generate reports from the captured information located in our data management system.

Trading Standards worked with an IT developer to extract the information into a data warehouse. A reporting toolset called SAP Business Objects was then implemented to allow Inspectors and Management to analyse the data for emerging trends, areas of interest and performance of both Accredited Persons and Inspectors.



Enforcements during FY 15/16:



Current month vs prior month differences:

	Doc	Grumpy	Happy	Bashful	Sneezy	Sleepy	Dopey	Miss White
Weighing Instruments	29	4	1	2	20	0	0	8
Measuring Instruments	20	1	11	0	4	0	2	0
Goods Inspections	0	2	2	2	25	0	0	15
AQS	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Inspections	10	2	4	4	10	0	2	2
Complaint/Enquiry	1	1	1	4	2	0	0	1
AP Observation	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0

Colour Key: Name Inspector name with red background = No input in current month Value Value with green background = New data

SECTION 3 – Future focus

New initiatives planned (next 1-2 years)

Seeking Certification to ISO 9001 : 2015

In July 2015, Trading Standards obtained certification to the Quality Management System ISO 9001:2008. MBIE's Consumer Protection and Standards branch that Trading Standards is located within was impressed by the benefits it had provided and requested Trading Standards to lead a project to attain a branch wide certification.

With the recent release of the revised Quality Management System, ISO 9001 : 2015, Trading Standards is in the process of updating its system to reflect the new requirements to include the following functions:

- Trading Standards ISO 17025 mass standards Laboratory
- Standards New Zealand
- Consumer Protection
- Occupational Licensing
- Radio Spectrum

40th Anniversary of New Zealand being metric

14 December 2016 marks the 40th anniversary of New Zealand adopting the metric system. Trading Standards is preparing to recognise the occasion by holding a lunchtime seminar event with an expected attendance of 150 people. The event will feature four speakers providing 10 min presentations on 'the importance of accurate measurement' in their fields of expertise. This includes medical measurement, electricity measurement, measuring global warming and calibrating police instruments.

All of measurement video for New Zealand

A three minute animated video is to be developed to raise awareness to the measurement regime in New Zealand and how the different organisations involved; legal metrology, scientific metrology and accreditation, are all interconnected.

Development of e-learning modules for Accredited Persons

Trading Standards intends to develop bespoke online training modules for Accredited Persons (approved verifiers) which they will be required to complete as part of their initial compliance audit and ongoing competency assessments.

Modules will be developed for weighing instruments, fuel dispensers and the accreditation scheme.

Emerging issues – challenges and opportunities

Incorporating updates to OIML documents into NZ legislation

The following two documents have been revised and approved by OIML

- OIML 79 - Labeling requirements for prepackages
- OIML R87 - Quantity of product in prepackages

Trading Standards intends to review the weights and measures legislation to incorporate the new requirements.

Trading Standards will also consider the introduction of a package goods certification system once the 'Guidance for defining the system requirements for a certification system for prepackages' has been approved.