



National Conference on Weights and Measures

NCWM and Legal Metrology

Jerry Buendel
Chairman

APLMF
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Honolulu, Hawaii



NCWM – Our Mission

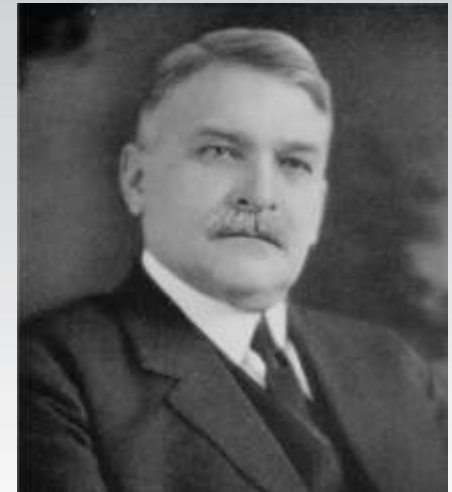
- Advance a healthy business and consumer climate
- Develop, publish and implement uniform and equitable weights and measures standards
- Use a consensus based standards development process





NCWM - History

- 1905 – Meeting of state officials called by the National Bureau of Standards
- Officials noted a severe lack of uniform regulations and standards
- Meetings became an annual event
- 1958 – NCWM was restructured





NCWM - Today

- 1997 – NCWM became a non-profit corporation
- Governance – Board of Directors, membership approvals, by-laws and policies
- Board of Directors – elected to five year terms, represent regions and industry. NIST and Measurement Canada are ex-officio members





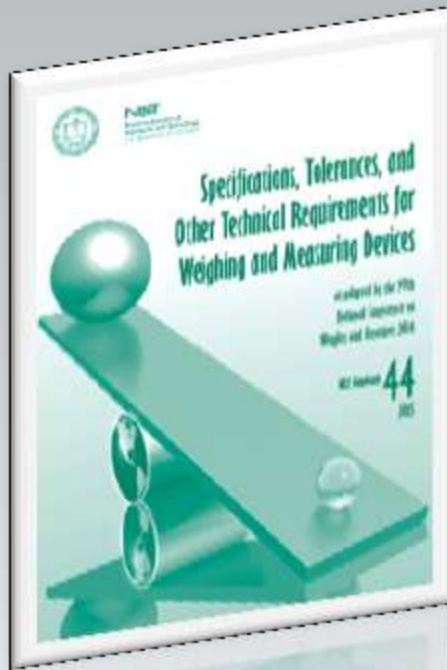
NCWM - Today

- 2251 members – Government officials, device manufacturers, consumer products industries, petroleum industries, auto manufacturers, trade associations, consumers and more
- Funding - Membership dues, NTEP program, sales of handbooks
- Full time staff – Lincoln, Nebraska



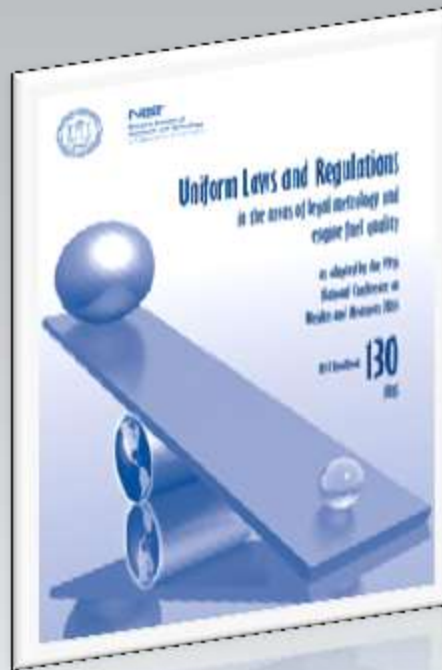


Standards: Adopted by NCWM / Published by NIST



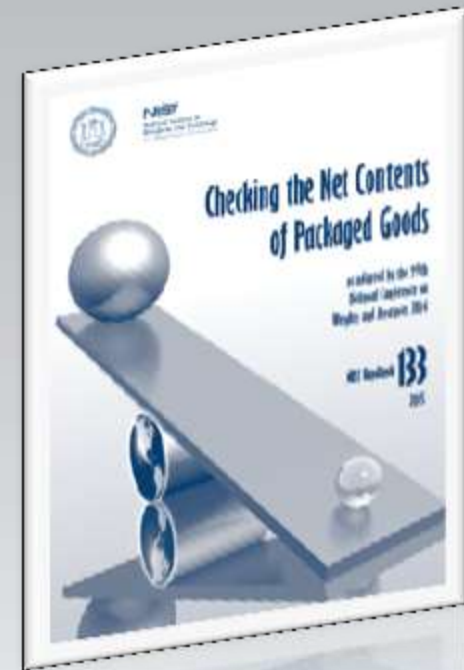
Handbook 44

Specifications, Tolerances and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices



Handbook 130

Uniform Laws and Regulations



Handbook 133

Checking the Net Contents of Packaged Goods



Standards - NIST Handbooks

- Handbook 44 - Specifications, tolerances and technical requirements for weighing and measuring devices
 - Used as a field enforcement manual by inspectors
 - Used by NTEP for certification standards
- Handbook 130 – Uniform laws and regulations in the area of legal metrology and fuel quality
 - Used as regulations for method of sale, labeling, fuel quality and more
- Handbook 133 – Checking the net content of packaged goods



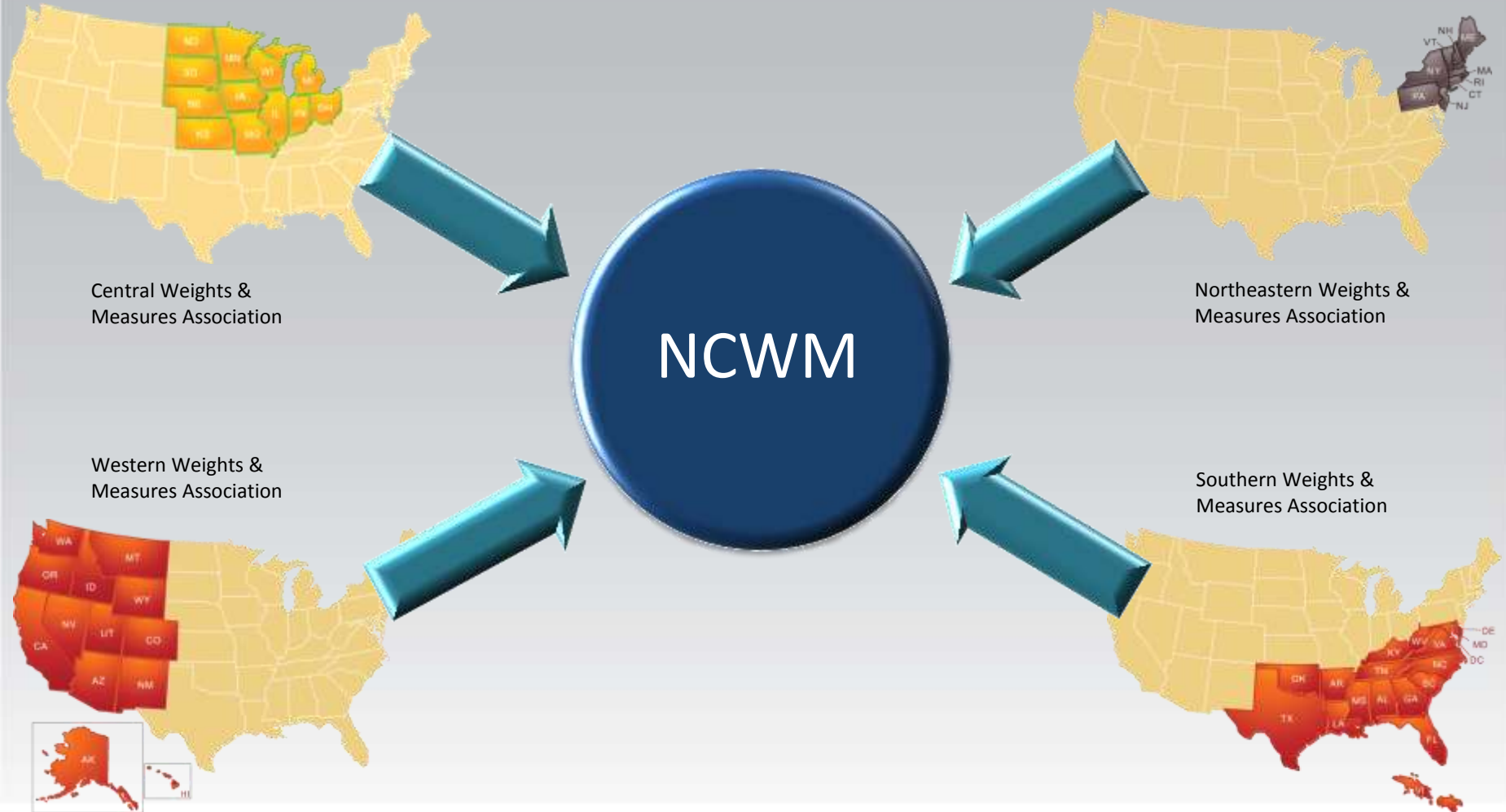
NIST Handbooks

- Developed by a legislative like process at NCWM
- Published annually by NIST – available on Internet
- Serve as model standards and laws
- Voluntary adoption by states – various editions and modifications of handbook provisions





Proposals to Amend Standards





General Process – Proposals to Amend Standards

- Proposals submitted to regional organizations by regulators or industry members
- Emergency proposal provisions – direct to NCWM
- Regional organizations deliberate and make recommendations
- Proposals considered at NCWM Interim Meeting – January
- Proposals further deliberated at NCWM Annual meeting - July
- Failed proposals may be reconsidered next year



Committee Process – Proposals to Amend Standards

- Proposals to amend Handbooks assigned to standing committees
 - Specifications and Tolerance Committee – HB 44
 - Laws and Regulations Committee – HB 130 & HB 133
 - Committees voluntarily staffed by regulators and industry. Terms are limited and chairmanship rotated
- NCWM Interim Meeting - January
 - Committees conduct open hearings and work sessions to deliberate on new and carry-over items
 - Committees determine
 - Which items are ready for a vote of membership
 - Which items need additional development
 - Which items are withdrawn from consideration



Support For The Decision Makers – Proposals to Amend Standards

- NIST provides technical support to regional and NCWM standing committees
- NCWM or NIST workgroups, task groups and sub-committees appointed to study and make recommendations on special topics
- NCWM facilitates communications between jurisdictions and interest groups
- Board of Directors oversee processes





NCWM Voting Process – Proposals Become Standards

- NCWM Annual Meeting - July
 - Committees hear testimony during open hearings
 - Committees conduct work sessions to deliberate on proposals
- Voting Session
 - Regulatory officials vote on technical items
 - Passed proposals placed in Handbooks
 - Failed proposals returned to committees



Obtaining NIST Handbooks

- NCWM members receive complimentary copies on request
- Order form for additional copies available from NCWM website:
 - www.ncwm.net
- Download from NIST web site:
 - <http://nist.gov/owm>





National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP)

- Purpose
 - Assure buyers and sellers that devices are suitable for use in commercial transactions
 - Assure buyers and sellers of permanence and performance under influence factors
- NTEP Certificate of Conformance - Indicates that the device(s) described are capable of meeting *NIST Handbook 44 requirements*





NTEP – History and Background

- Many jurisdictions and type evaluations used in the United States
- 1975 - National Bureau of Standards began issuing test reports, most states used reports for certificates
- 1984 - NCWM published Uniform National Type Evaluation Regulation
- 1984 to 1999 – NIST administered NTEP Program
- 2000 – NCWM assumed administration of NTEP



NTEP - Today

- NCWM
 - Authorizes state and federal labs to evaluate instruments
 - Issues the NTEP Certificates of Conformance
 - Publishes administrative and technical policies, checklists, and test procedures in NCWM Publication 14
 - Maintains a database of approved devices – available on NCWM website
 - Conducts conformity assessment programs
 - Board of Directors oversee policy and administration
- States
 - 48 require commercial devices have NTEP certification



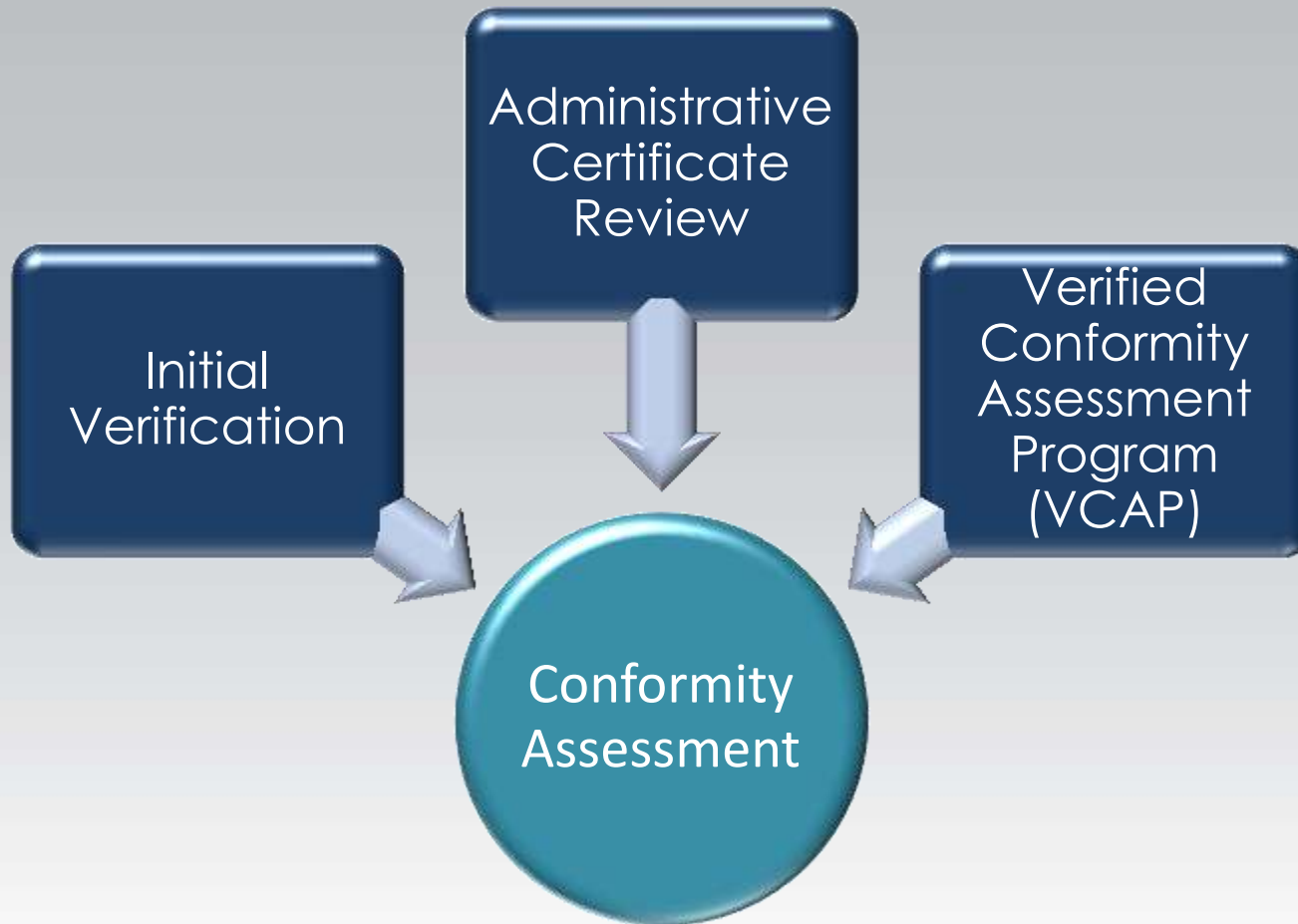
NTEP – NCWM Publication 14

- Based on NIST Handbook 44 requirements and standards
- NCWM Publication 14 methods used to evaluate devices
- Handbook 44 and Publication 14 developed and adopted through NCWM
- NCWM Publication 14 is available for purchase on the NCWM website





Conformity Assessment Program





Similar Methods and Mission

The International System



The United States System





National Conference on Weights and Measures

"That Equity May Prevail"



Thank You!

