
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1986 No. 1682

The Measuring Equipment (Measures of Length) Regulations 1986

PART V

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

Prescribed limits of error

- 24.** The prescribed limits of error relating to measures of length shall be as follows:—
- (a) where the measure is designed to measure in metric units, 0.6 millimetre plus 0.4 millimetre per metre (rounded up to the next whole metre) of nominal length; and
 - (b) where the measure is designed to measure in imperial units, 0.025 inch plus 0.015 inch per yard (rounded up to the next whole yard) of nominal length.

Commencement Information

- I1** Reg. 24 in force at 27.10.1986, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Passing as fit for use for trade

- 25.** No measure of length shall be passed as fit for use for trade unless on testing—
- (a) it complies with all the appropriate requirements of these Regulations;
 - (b) it falls within the prescribed limits of error; and
 - (c) the inspector is of the opinion that it is not constructed in a manner which facilitates fraudulent use.

Commencement Information

- I2** Reg. 25 in force at 27.10.1986, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Stamping

26.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) below, measures of length shall be stamped with the stamp near one end or, in the case of graduated measures, near the beginning of the measure on each graduated side.

(2) In the case of flexible measures of length the stamp may be placed on a metal plug, disc or label permanently secured to the measure.

(3) No measure of length shall be stamped with the stamp if it bears—

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- (a) any mark which, in the opinion of the inspector, might reasonably be mistaken for the stamp;
- (b) any indication of a class of accuracy to which the measure belongs; or
- (c) any other statement or mark (other than the stamp) which purports to be or, in the opinion of the inspector, might reasonably be mistaken for an expression of approval or guarantee of accuracy by any body or person.

Commencement Information

I3 Reg. 26 in force at 27.10.1986, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Obliteration of stamps

27. The stamp shall be obliterated on any measure of length by an inspector, in accordance with the requirements of these Regulations, by means of punches or pincers of suitable sizes of a six-pointed star design as shown in the following illustration:—

Commencement Information

I4 Reg. 27 in force at 27.10.1986, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

28.—(1) An inspector shall obliterate the stamp on any measure of length which—

- (a) fails upon testing to fall within twice the prescribed limits of error; or
- (b) fails to comply with any other appropriate requirement of these Regulations:

Provided that an inspector shall not obliterate the stamp on any measure of length which falls within twice the prescribed limits of error and which was first stamped before 27th October 1986, notwithstanding that it fails to comply with the appropriate requirements of these Regulations.

(2) Where any measure of length has, since it was last stamped, been the subject of any adjustment, alteration, addition, damage or repair which could, in the opinion of the inspector, have affected its accuracy or function, he may obliterate the stamp on that measure.

Commencement Information

I5 Reg. 28 in force at 27.10.1986, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Instrument associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Instrument (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 2 inserted by [S.I. 1996/2636 Sch.](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words substituted by [S.I. 1996/3020 reg. 2](#)
- reg. 17A inserted by [S.I. 1994/1851 Sch. Pt. 1](#)
- reg. 17A words inserted by [S.I. 2001/85 reg. 3\(1\)Sch.](#)
- reg. 17A words omitted by [S.I. 2009/3045 reg. 3\(2\)\(d\)](#)
- reg. 23A23B inserted by [S.I. 1996/2636 reg. 2\(2\)](#)
- reg. 23B heading words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1387 Sch. para. 4\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- reg. 23B(1) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1387 Sch. para. 4\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- reg. 23B(2)(b) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1387 Sch. para. 4\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- reg. 23B(3) substituted by [S.I. 2003/214 Sch. para. 3](#)