
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1981 No. 231

Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

PART III

WEIGHING AND MEASURING FOR TRADE

General specifications of equipment for use for trade

12.—(1) The Department may by regulations prescribe general specifications for the construction of equipment to which Article 9 applies and, subject to paragraph (4), while any such specification is for the time being so prescribed no equipment which does not conform with it shall be passed or stamped by an inspector^{F1} or approved verifier] under Article 9 unless it is of a pattern in respect of which a certificate of approval under Article 10 is in force.

(2) If the Department is satisfied that any pattern submitted to it under paragraph (1) of Article 10 conforms to any general specification for the time being prescribed under this Article, it may, instead of issuing a certificate of approval under that paragraph, publish in the Belfast Gazette a declaration to that effect.

(3) Where any specification prescribed by regulations under this Article is varied or revoked by further regulations under this Article, then if any person uses for trade, or has in his possession for such use, or causes or permits any other person so to use, any equipment which conformed to that specification but which to his knowledge no longer conforms to any specification so prescribed, or disposes of any such equipment to any other person in a state in which it could be so used without informing that other person that it no longer so conforms, he shall be guilty of an offence and the equipment shall be liable to be forfeited.

(4) Where, in the case of any particular equipment, it appears to the Department that there are special circumstances which make it impracticable or unnecessary for that equipment to comply with any particular requirement of any specification prescribed under this Article, the Department may exempt that equipment from that requirement subject to compliance with such conditions, if any, as it thinks fit; and if any person knowingly contravenes any condition imposed with respect to any equipment by virtue of this paragraph, he shall be guilty of an offence and the equipment shall be liable to be forfeited.

(5) Regulations made under this Article may direct that general specifications prescribed by the Secretary of State under^{F2} section 14 of the Act of 1985] shall apply to Northern Ireland as if they were prescribed under paragraph (1), and any reference in this Order to specifications prescribed under this Article shall include a reference to specifications so applied.

F1 2000 c. 5(NI)

F2 1985 c. 72

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, Section 12.