
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations replace with amendments the Weighing Equipment (Beltweighers) Regulations 1983 in the light of the International Recommendation R 50–1 and R 50–2 concerning continuous totalising automatic weighing instruments (beltweighers) issued by the International Organisation of Legal Metrology. The 1983 Regulations continue to apply to beltweighers passed as fit for use for trade before 28th September 2001 (regulation 1(3)).

The Regulations apply to beltweighers for use for trade and continue to prescribe such beltweighers for the purposes of section 11(1) of the Weights and Measures Act 1985. The effect of prescription is to make it unlawful to use these beltweighers for trade unless they have been tested, passed as fit for such use and stamped by an inspector of weights and measures. These requirements of prescription are also satisfied by a beltweigher complying with Council Directive No. [75/410/EEC](#) (O.J. L185, 14.7.1975, p. 25) and bearing the sign of EEC pattern approval and mark of EEC initial verification.

The Regulations make provision for—

- (a) the purposes of use for trade (regulation 5);
- (b) the materials, principles of construction and marking of beltweighers (regulations 6 to 8);
- (c) the manner of erection and use for trade (regulations 9 to 12);
- (d) the testing of beltweighers (regulations 13 and 14); and
- (e) passing of beltweighers as fit for use for trade, and the stamping and obliteration of stamps on beltweighers (regulations 15 to 21).

The Regulations make the following changes of substance—

- (a) A new accuracy class of beltweigher, Class 0.5, may be used for trade (regulation 2(2)). Classes are to be determined in accordance with recommendations of the International Organisation of Legal Metrology (regulation 2(3)).
- (b) Regulation 3(2) of the Weighing Equipment (Beltweighers) Regulations 1983 restricted their application to beltweighers which are designed to operate at only one speed. These Regulations are of wider application as they are not restricted to single-speed beltweighers (regulation 4).
- (c) The testing of beltweighers may now be carried out elsewhere than at their place of use (regulation 13(2)(b)).
- (d) An inspector may now require a person in possession of a beltweigher to be tested to provide handling equipment and assistance (regulation 13(5)).
- (e) Tests are now to be carried out in accordance with provisions of the International Recommendation entitled “Continuous totalizing automatic weighing instruments (beltweighers) Part 1: Metrological and technical requirements – Tests” (regulation 15(1)).
- (f) Provision is now made for dispensing with testing of beltweighers imported from other States of the EEA (regulations 14 and 15(2)).

These Regulations were notified to the European Commission in accordance with the requirements of Directive [98/34/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council (1998 O.J. L204/37), (formerly Council Directive [83/189/EEC](#) (1983 O.J. L109/8), as amended).

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Weighing Equipment (Beltweighers) Regulations 2001. (See end of Document for details)*

Copies of the publications of the International Organisation of Legal Metrology (see regulation 3) are available from the Organisation at 11 rue Turgot, Paris, 75009, France, and from the National Weights and Measures Laboratory, Stanton Avenue, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0JZ.

Copies of British Standards (see regulation 14(3)) can be obtained from any of the sales outlets operated by the British Standards Institution (BSI) or by post from the BSI at Linford Wood, Milton Keynes, MK14 6LE and at any Stationery Office bookshop.

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