



Weighing up the Cost to the Consumer

Weighing Federation fully supports the red tape challenge, but not when it would result in consumers losing out.

The full and wider implications of the removal of any regulations needs to be carefully considered and the question asked 'do the benefits out-weigh the implications'.

The UK Weighing Federation does not believe the cost savings resulting from the removal of recent weighing regulations out weigh the serious risk consumers being sold short.

For example, the removal of the test weight regulation, which was replaced by guidance notes means it is now local authorities having to decide on what is 'satisfactory'. This will inevitably result in another postcode lottery scandal, with some consumers getting better protection against erroneous weights than others depending on location.

Furthermore, Policing the consumer's rights will become more difficult. Testing equipment for calibration needs only be 'satisfactory', a term open to interpretation and inevitably abuse.



We need to avoid a race to the bottom with less scrupulous suppliers set to gain the most from weaker regulation.

The best and most efficient way to protect consumers is by periodic reverification

- All trade approved equipment must be reverified every 2 years

- Complete market surveillance – protecting against the proliferation of non-approved equipment
- This will lead to a self regulated market.



The EU values this legislation, but not the UK.

Was this the right decision?

About the UK Weighing Federation

The UKWF is the recognised national trade association for manufacturers, system integrators, distributors, repairers, installers and service organisations involved in the weighing industry.

It is the UK's 'centre of excellence' for all aspects of weighing and our membership includes companies from all areas of weighing, including suppliers of equipment, components, instrumentation, software, services and systems.

Members

The UK weighing Federation represents 80 member companies with over 3,000 employees nationally, though hundreds of non-member companies benefit from the UKWF.

The members represent about three quarters of all the suppliers and manufacturers in the UK.

The UK Weighing Industry is a net exporter of goods with €81 million of exports to the EU in 2014.

Our Objectives

To act on regulatory matters emerging at UK, EC and International level.

To sustain good relations and continuous dialogue with all levels of Government agencies and professional bodies.

To promote and improve the understanding of modern weighing technology, thereby improving the quality of service given to customers and their consumers.



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