



NSAI

Legal Metrology

Presentation to the UK Weighing Federation

14th May 2015

Presentation Agenda

1. The Role of NSAI Legal Metrology
2. Our Structure
3. Inspection Activity
4. Risk Based Approach to Inspection
5. Authorised Verifier Scheme – Section 12
6. Future Challenges



NSAI Legal Metrology

NSAI Legal Metrology is responsible for protecting Irish consumers and business regarding everyday measurements.

Uphold and enforce accuracy and transparency in trade measures by certifying and inspecting measuring instruments used by traders and by inspecting pre-packaged goods to ensure correct quantity.

The Role of NSAI Legal Metrology

NSAI Legal Metrology is responsible for enforcement of two main texts of legislation:

- Packaged Goods (Quantity Control) Act, 1980
- Metrology Act, 1996

The legislation includes regulation making powers and provides for the imposition of sanctions by the courts on persons or businesses found to be in contravention.

- Legal Metrology (European Conformity Assessment of Measuring Instruments) Regulations 2007
- Legal Metrology (General) Regulations 2008



Legal Metrology Activities

The principal activities of the division are:

- Maintaining a uniform system of units of measurement
- Ensuring the accuracy of measuring instruments used in trade
- Maintaining confidence in the measurement of quantities of goods on sale to consumers
- Representing Irish business and consumers on matters of legal metrology at national and international level
- Volume calibration service from 5 litres to 500 litres



Enforcement Sanctions

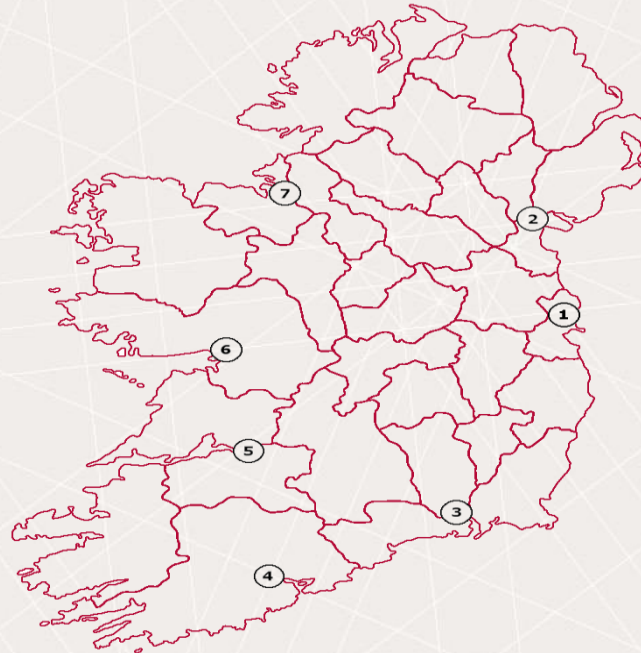
Where breaches of the Acts are committed, the following sanctions are available:

- Verbal warnings to comply by a certain date
- Warning notices in the form of written instructions to comply by a certain date
- The taking out of use of measuring instruments
- The seizure of pre-packed goods or measuring instruments
- Prosecution before the courts

Our Structure

In addition to its national head office in Dublin, Legal Metrology has seven Regional Centres in the following locations:

1. Dublin
2. Dundalk
3. Waterford
4. Cork
5. Limerick
6. Galway
7. Sligo



Each Regional Centre is staffed by inspectors, who work under the supervision of a chief inspector.

Inspection Sectors



Inspection Activity



Number of Instruments	No. of Traders
72,000	40,000

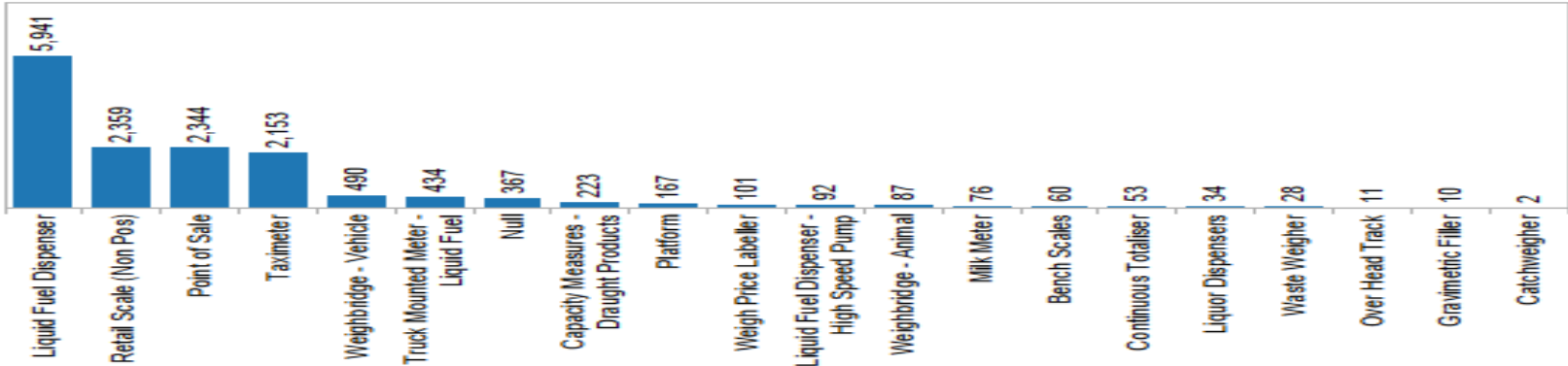
Legal Metrology Inspection Activity		
Year	Instrument Inspections	Traders Visited
2013	16131	5414
2014	15032	5658

Visit Reasons

VISIT_TYPE_DESCRIPTION ..

Advice request (PG)	0.28%
Complaint investigation	2.09%
Follow-up to non-payment	0.18%
Follow-up to warning	1.54%
Information gathering	0.95%
Inspection	90.51%
Licensed Premises	1.25%
Packaged Goods Inspection	1.06%
POS Conformity Exercise	0.05%
Re/verification	1.86%
Technical Testing	0.23%

Tests by Instrument Type



Test Type

Calibration	0.0%
EC Verification	1.0%
In Service Verification	0.1%
Insp Type 1 (Full)	50.5%
Insp Type 2 (Visual)	48.1%
Insp Type 3 (Records)	0.1%
National Initial Verification	0.2%

Weighing Sector Inspection Activity - 2014

Instrument Type	Total Number	2014 Inspection	Compliance
Weighbridge (Animal)	161	87	58% (81%)
Weighbridge (Vehicle)	1759	490	76% (91%)
Non POS	10379	2359	94% (97%)
POS	6928	2344	79% (94%)
Platform	865	167	77% (89%)

Risk Based Enforcement

In line with Better Regulation policy – reduce burdens on business while achieving compliance effectively and efficiently

- Prioritise risks
- Focus resources strategically
- Target areas of high non-compliance

Our approach to enforcement is to promote voluntary compliance where possible. Should this approach be unsuccessful, we take further action. This may ultimately include prosecution to ensure that the protections and aims of the Metrology Act, 1996, and the Packaged Goods (Quantity Control) Act, 1980, are met.

2015 Risk Areas

Taximeter

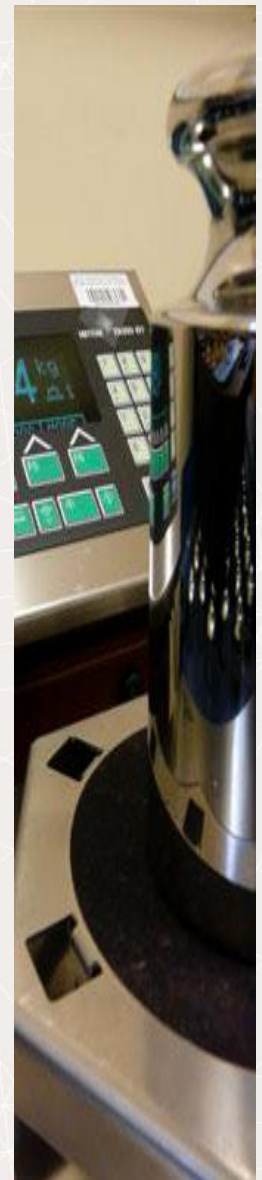
- Introduction of a new minimum fare

Pay by Weight – refuse collection

- New legislation introducing nationwide pay by weight for domestic waste

Utilities

- Introduction of water metering for domestic water supplies



Authorised Verifiers



Since 2008 NSAI Legal Metrology have appointed private operators to carry out measuring instrument verifications on our behalf.

There are currently 28 authorised verifiers who are authorised to carry out instrument verification on behalf of NSAI Legal Metrology

Benefits of Authorised Verifier Scheme:

- Release LMS resources for core function of inspection
- Competitive verification market
- Timely / geographical delivery

Further details on the Authorised Verifier scheme can be found at www.n sai .ie

Future Challenges

- Develop 2016 – 2020 Strategy
- Upgrade of inspection database
- Certification to ISO 17020
- Pre-packaged goods – review enforcement
- Market Surveillance
- Joint enforcement activity with other state bodies
- Irish Weighing Federation



Thank you for your attention