



Global Weighing Industry Newsletter

Prepared by CWIA, CECIP, JMIF & SMA

New kilogram definition becomes applicable

On World Metrology Day (20 May) the new definition of the kilogram became applicable. This new definition was approved at the General Conference on Weights and Measures in November 2018. It will change from a definition based on an artefact standard to a definition based on a physical constant, notably the Planck constant. In principle the new kilogram definition and the current kilogram definition should be have the same mass. A detailed guide on the definition of the new kilogram from BIPM can be found [here](#).

The European Directive 80/181/EEC that regulates the definition of the kilogram at EU level will be amended as well to be in line with this new definition. Publication of the amendment is expected for the end of July.

New Market Surveillance legislation in EU

The European Union has published a new legislation with respect to market surveillance. This new Regulation 2019/1020 aims at improving the functioning of the internal market by strengthening market surveillance covered by EU legislation. It does so by setting rules and procedures for both market surveillance authorities and economic operators such as manufacturers and importers. One of these requirements is, for example, that for each product sold on the EU market there should be at least one contact person for the market surveillance authorities that is located within the EU. Additionally, this new legislation clearly states that products sold online to EU customers should meet EU legislation. Another aspect of interest to CECIP is a possible cooperation between CECIP and market surveillance authorities to identify uncompliant products.

You can find the full text [here](#).

Verification of AWI starts in Japan

The measurement law of Japan has undergone major changes.

Weighing has been carried out by AWI in various fields including the food distribution. To provide accurate measurement and maintain the proper commodity quantification system, the following AWI are now under regulation in Japan:

- Automatic catch-weighing instruments, R51



- Discontinuous Totalizing Automatic Weighing Instruments, R107
- Automatic Gravimetric Filling Instruments, R61
- Continuous Totalizing Automatic Weighing Instruments, R50

Application for type approval/verification of R51 started this April and the rest from April 1, 2020 with the prohibition of use of instruments without verification marks three years after the start of verification. The technical requirements for verification are specified in the Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS) based on OIML Recommendations, taking into account characteristics of the Japanese markets.

Verification of AWI will be conducted by newly-introduced verification laboratories designated by the ministry in terms of neutrality, facilities and technologies they own. The structure of AWI is complicated and the verification requires advanced technology and knowledge, therefore public verification bodies (local governments) do not perform AWI verification. Designated laboratories are mostly manufacturers and perform mainly instrument error tests for periodic verification of every two years.

Change of JMIF president

Mr. Akira NAKAMOTO retired from the President of JMIF in May 2019. During his tenure from 2011, Mr. Nakamoto actively promoted exchanges with international organizations. He started the relationship with CECIP by inviting Ms. Veronika Martens, the then CECIP-LMG representative, to INTERMEASURE 2012 as a lecturer to introduce the activity of CECIP. He also participated in the CECIP-GA held in 2016.

The new president of JMIF is Mr. Giichi TANAKA, President and Representative Director of KYOWA ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTS CO., LTD., a comprehensive manufacturer of stress instrumentation employed in many industrial fields.

Under the new leadership, JMIF pushes forward activities for our members.

A Working Partnership: How the SMA and NCWM Collaborate to Establish US Standards

In the United States, the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM) is the standard-setting body for weights and measures. The NCWM also administers the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP); NTEP tests and issues a Certificate of Conformance (CoC)



to weighing devices that comply with the requirements of the National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44, which is the Handbook that governs the US weighing industry, as most US States adopt Handbook 44 in some form into their local laws.

The Scale Manufacturer's Association (SMA) is an organization comprised of manufacturers of weighing devices, including scales, load cells, and indicators. The SMA holds semi-annual (twice a year) meetings to review and discuss current matters of interest with respect to the weighing industry.

The concept of a group of competitors coming together in a unified fashion of cooperation for the good of the weighing industry might be unique to the US. As individual companies, the SMA members are competitors with each other; this relationship changes from one of "competition" to one of "collaboration/cooperation" during the SMA meetings. All SMA member companies are given the chance to put forth their views on issues that directly impact the weighing industry, and by extension their livelihoods. (It should be noted that when the member companies come together for SMA meetings, they must agree to adhere to a strict "Antitrust" policy.)

The SMA is one of many voices that contributes to the NCWM's standards-setting process. The SMA has a Technical Committee (the SMATC) which meets during every SMA meeting; this committee discusses any item on the NCWM agenda that has a bearing on the weighing industry. This process is aided by the NCWM, which sends an NTEP representative to each SMA meeting to give input and analysis to the SMATC about these NCWM items. This analysis is one of the inputs that is weighed during the SMATC discussions; the end result is that the SMATC generates a position on each NCWM item. This position could be to support the item as-is, to support the item with suggested changes, to not support the item and recommend the item be withdrawn, etc.

These SMATC recommended positions are then discussed during the SMA Business Meeting Executive Session, whereby the SMA Board of Directors and other SMA members not seated on the SMATC will hear the recommended positions and vote if they will be approved. If approved, these become the official SMA positions on the NCWM items; these positions are then put on the official record at each NCWM meeting – this is done by having an SMA representative (typically the SMATC Chair) submit the SMA's positions during the Open Hearings, whereby the positions become part of the official Conference record.

Various SMA member companies are in attendance at every NCWM meeting; this is done to



ensure not only that the SMA's positions on the various NCWM items are heard and considered, but also to be on hand to answer questions or provide input and technical analysis for regulators, who are the actual voting representatives for the NCWM since industry members cannot vote on the content of NIST Handbook 44.

The ability of the SMA's member companies to "call a truce" and work together as a unified voice is a benefit to the US weighing industry as well; it provides a way for the NCWM to receive input on items from a well-respected organization. The relationship between the NCWM, the US States, and the SMA is a long-standing partnership that serves all parties well.

Weighing Industry Events in China (2019 January-July)

25 February 2019

National Automatic Weighing Instrument Technology Committee Branch- OIML work Seminar held in Taiyuan, Shanxi

Topic: Discuss "Continuous totalizing automatic weighing instruments of the arched chute type".

15 May 2019

China Weighing Instrument Standardization Technology Committee Meeting

9 July 2019

CWIA Board Members Annual Meeting

CWIA Weighbridge Professional Committee Meeting

China Weighing Instrument Standardization Technology Committee Meeting

10 July 2019

Open for InterWEIGHING2019 and Open Banquet.

Weighing Technology Seminar and New Tech& product Release

11 July 2019

Weighing Technology Seminar and New Tech& product Release

Review 2018 Weighing Industry

(Statistics from 117 CWIA Member Companies)

1. Commercial Weighing Apparatus

A. Counter Scale. Output: 6.08 Million scales. Reducing 3.55% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 5.84 Million scales

B. Platform Scale. Output: 3.24 Million scales. Increasing 16.56% by year on year growth. Sales Volume: 3.05 Million scales

2. Industrial Weighing Apparatus

A. Floor Scale. Output: 0.23 Million Scales. Reducing 23.49% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 0.19 Million scales.

B. Underground Weighbridge. Output: 13.58 scales. Reducing 4.3% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 10.57 scales

C. Railway Scale. Output: 175 scales. Increasing 40% by year on year growth. Sales Volume:



166 scales.

D. Hopper Scale. Output: 6247 scales. Increasing 12.09% by year on year growth. Sales Volume: 5611 scales.

E. Crane Scale. Output: 0.16 Million scales. Reducing 9.02% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 0.14 Million scales

F. Belt Scale. Output: 0.16 Million scales. Reducing 9.02% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 0.14 Million scales

G. Special Scale. Output: 10.38 Million scales. Increasing 25.67% by year on year growth. Sales Volume: 0.69 Million scales

H. Household Scale. Output: 21.58 Million Scales. Reducing 16.68% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 20.72 Million scales

I. Balance. Output: 1.81 Million Scales. Reducing 9.65% compare with the number in 2017. Sales Volume: 1.63 Million scales

J. Weighing Indicator. Output: 3.49 Million scales. Increasing 12.42% by year on year growth. Sales Volume: 3.39 Million scales

K. Load Cell. Output: 67.24 Million scales. Increasing 22.85% by year on year growth. Sales Volume: 59.55 Million scales

L. Weighing System. Output: 0.14 Million scales. Increasing 92.86% by year on year growth. Sales Volume: 0.1 Million scales

2018 China Weighing Industry products import and export number will be released in July.

About the newsletter

This newsletter is prepared by the weighing industry associations from China (CWIA), Europe (CECIP), Japan (JMIF) and US (SMA) as a joint project. It aims at informing the weighing industry about the relevant developments in different parts of the world. This is the first edition of the newsletter.