



# Technical Officers Update 3rd October 2019

UK Weighing Federation  
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# UKWF Technical Update

- The main part of the technical update will be Brexit
- This has been occupying the majority of our time and we will devote a separate round-table discussion to this topic this afternoon
- Other matters have occurred
- Apprenticeships
- Legislation updates
- EU legislation updates
- WELMEC Meetings
- Consultations



# UKWF Apprenticeships

- We have been working with the National Physical Laboratory on providing a level three apprenticeship
- There are 5 independent assessment that a new apprenticeship has to pass through- We have successfully passed through two of them and are working on the third- Detailed Planning
- The next stage will be decided by an independent committee as to whether it can progress



# UKWF Apprenticeships

- Although very pleased to date – must be noted that
- The funding structure for non-levying paying businesses is not yet in place- Government has been preoccupied with other matters
- Until this is in place there will not be funding- hoped that this will be by September 2020 but may be longer
- The apprenticeship scheme only applies to England
- There are separate schemes for Scotland-Wales and NI
- Could create a problem in generating sufficient numbers



# UKWF Apprenticeships-potential structures

- Could be composed of a number of modules
  1. Introduction to metrology - (5 days study and self-study practice - could be shorter as this will only be weighing)
  2. Safety - This will be two modules with the second module being specific to the weighing industry
  3. Mathematics and introduction to measurement uncertainty - (5 days study and self-study practice - could be shorter as this will only be weighing)
  4. Introduction to control tools for Measurement Systems Analysis and Statistical Process Control - This will be particularly useful for companies supplying instruments to packers
  5. Metrology Infrastructure - This is particularly important for companies undertaking “Self-verification”. It will include an understanding of the important documents and an understanding of the EU Directives and ant relevant post Brexit infrastructure



# UKWF Apprenticeships-potential structures

- 6 Legal metrology infrastructure/ regulatory framework - This will be an important module which will include all of the frameworks for self-verification and the procedures under EN45501 that self-verification staff will need to follow
- 7 Measurement of mass and related quantities - this will relate to some of the basic physics that relate to the measurement of mass
- 8 Mass (Part 2) –This will be a specific module that will relate to the internal calibration procedures that companies follow for calibration their own weights
- 9 Data Analysis - This will be a module that will cover the practical data collection of weighing instruments
- 10 Instrumentation and sensors- This will cover the operation of load cell technologies



# UKWF Apprenticeships-potential structures

- 11 Quality Management and product verification-This will cover ISO 9001 -2015 and 17025 and other related standards. It will be more comprehensive than the NPL module as an understanding of these is important for weighing companies
- 12 New Project for the weighing industry – this will be tailored to a range of weighing instruments to ensure the the potential apprenticeship is portable
- 13 Software
- 14 Test fault finding - This will be a practical element for the UKWF
  - This will be done as a series of block release either in Huddersfield or Teddington
  - Can hear views on the amount of block release but this will have to take place



# UKWF Apprenticeships-next steps

- We must collect letters of support from member companies
- UKWF member companies will receive a questionnaire – which they should fill in
- If we get through the next board approval – The NPL will attend the next meeting to canvass members on the content of the courses



# Units of Measurement

- The Units of Measurement Directive has been updated to reflect the changes to the base SI Units
- Brexit dividend... This has already been done because the European Legislation was necessary to do it . First member state to do and this will come in to force in 2020 but will have little effect on our day to day work
- Hopefully closes down the potential for Imperial Units for a while



# Market Surveillance Regulations

- EU Regulation 2019/1020 on Market Surveillance and Compliance of Products
- These regulations lay down enhanced rules for economic operators
- Strengthen market surveillance of products covered by EU harmonization law
- Provide a framework for controls at the EU Border



# Market Surveillance Regulations

- Article 9 allows for joint activities between market surveillance authorities and organisations representing economic operators with the aim of promoting compliance, raising awareness and providing guidance
- It is likely that these regulations will be implemented into UK legislation so it will be a good way of having a more formal relationship with UK market surveillance



# Consultations

- There are EU Consultations on
- The Machinery Directive – nothing major in this
- The RoHS. Directive - this could be important as it may end when we have departed from the EU and could be an opportunity for the Government to diverge from EU legislation



# Consultations-UKWF Code

- The most recent draft of this will be completed before the end of the year and will be out for consultation with members
- Some important proposed changes;
- Problem- member companies have their own internal calibration methods for weights used for UKWF Calibrations which are inconsistent
- The new Code suggests a method for introducing consistency but will probably require changes.
- Problem- placing instruments on the market when they are not immediately verified
- The new Code suggests a set of wording that will remove this liability if left with a suitable level of management



# WELMEC

- WG7 on Software – risk based approach on software approval will hopefully introduce greater consistency across notified bodies
- Will include an assessment of attacker motivation
- WG5- Market surveillance looking at an EU wide project on medical weighing and packaged goods
- UK Government doing a project next year on Packaged Goods

