



January 2021

# Latest News from the UK Weighing Federation

## A message from the UKWF President, Graham Spink

Happy New Year! And what a start we've had. We finally saw a Brexit trade deal agreed in time for Christmas and then the government announced another lockdown to tackle Covid-19. However, despite the uncertainty around Brexit in 2020 and the ongoing challenges that the pandemic brings, the UKWF has continued to work on your behalf, providing you with the latest legal metrology insights.

In other news, 2021 is set to be an exciting year for the UKWF as we continue to grow our profile with UK Government and our stakeholders across Europe to drive the changes our industry wants to see.

As part of growing our profile, we're giving the UKWF brand a much-needed revamp with a new logo. The logo was approved by the UKWF board last month and we're now getting everything in place before we officially share it for you to use, so watch this space!

In this latest newsletter, we provide a re-cap on the post-Brexit steps our members need to take over the coming months now that the transition period is over.

You'll also read in the newsletter that next month is National Apprenticeship Week.



We'd love to profile some of our members' apprentices during that week so take a look at this too and please get in touch if you'd like to get involved.

We also have the usual updates from our Technical Officer, Ian Turner.

Stay safe everyone and look forward to working with you all in 2021.

# It's 2021, so what's next for Brexit?

**With the transition period over, what will post-Brexit bring and what should weighing companies be doing in the coming months?**

**Here at the UKWF we've been working over the last year to gather information on the legislation that will be in place when we officially leave the EU.**

In addition, we've been lobbying stakeholders in Government to share concerns on your behalf and get the best outcomes for our industry.

If you are using NMO or SGS as your notified body to place goods on the market in England, Scotland, and Wales then you have hopefully started applying a UKCA mark to your products.

If it is not attached to the instrument it can be in accompanying documents for 24 months before it has to be permanently attached.

The other significant change which starts immediately is that if you were previously a distributor of weighing instruments in the UK, you have now become an importer for the first time.

This means that you must have your name and address on the instrument. Although as with the UKCA mark, you can put your name and address in accompanying documents for 24 months from 1 January this year.

As the importer, it will also be your responsibility to maintain the technical files and demonstrate compliance within the legislation.

Unfortunately, the same changes don't apply to Northern Ireland. If you are using a UK approved body then the markings will need to be a CE followed by the M mark and then a UKNI; the UKCA mark is not valid in Northern Ireland.

Finally, if you use an EU27 notified body, then you can continue to use a CE mark and the notified body identification number for another year.



WHAT NEXT?

## A re-cap on the changes...



We've provided lots of information over the last few months which has hopefully helped you to plan and prepare for the end of the Brexit transition period. As a reminder here are the key milestones you should be working towards.

### From 1 January 2021

Users of NMO & SGS notified bodies have to use the UKCA mark.

The UKCA mark can be attached to the product as a label or go on an accompanying document.

You'll need to produce a UK Declaration of Conformity.

### From 1 January 2022

The CE mark will no longer be recognised in GB.

Any product already with a CE mark is still valid in the UK.

You'll need to have UK type examination certificates rather than EU ones.

**From 1 January 2023, the UKCA mark must be permanently fixed to the product.**

## An update from our UKWF Technical Officer, Ian Turner

Happy New Year! Finally after months of talking about Brexit, it actually happened. There is still work for weighing companies to do to adjust to the new legislation and as your technical officer, I'm on hand if you need any advice or guidance.

In other news we met with the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) again in early January to discuss progress on a apprenticeship scheme for the weighing industry. You'll remember we previously

said that we were in Gate 3 discussions and while they were going well, the NPL have now unfortunately had to put a pause on their work with us due to the ongoing pandemic. While this is disappointing, it is something that is out of their – and our – control and we have been given their assurance that they will continue progressing Gate 3 discussions later in 2021.



## New UKWF recommended training provider for ATEX

I'm delighted to share the news that we now have a ATEX training expert as a new associate UKWF member.

Geoff, Botterill from EPIC, joined back in November and provides training and consultancy, performing audits, surveys, and inspections of Ex Systems. He also specialises in Hazardous Areas, Explosion Protection, Ex, Intrinsic Safety, Flameproof and Zones, which are all terms relating to the allocation of ATEX when required for industrial weighing systems. As you can see he is a perfect addition to the UKWF membership and if you'd like any more information about ATEX training that please get in touch with me and I can share his details.

**Also, don't forget that I'm hosting the first of my new technical webinars on 20 January 2021. This one is about Compatibility of Modules and you can register for a place by emailing [admin@ukwf.org.uk](mailto:admin@ukwf.org.uk). Look forward to seeing you there.**

## Working with our industry partners...



We have continued to work closely with the European Trade Association, CECIP, on a number of issues.

CECIP will be publishing a European risk assessment guide on software approvals in the coming months so we'll share this with you as soon as it's available. There is also a European working group being set up to discuss the requirements needed for requalifying market surveillance harmonisation and I will provide more details on this when I have it.

# Calling all Apprentices...!



**It's National Apprenticeship Week next month and we'd like to use the week to showcase some of the brilliant apprentices that we have working across our industry.**

## So what's involved...?

We want to profile as many UKWF members' apprentices as possible on our social channels throughout the week.

This means we'll need some info about them, the role they do, what they've learnt, and why they love being an apprentice in the weighing industry. We'll also need a photo of them too! We will create profiles for each of them and share them on Twitter, LinkedIn and the UKWF website.

## Why?

Because by showcasing some of the excellent people we have working in our industry and the benefits of having a career in weighing, we can attract more talent into the industry and into your business.

So if you have a brilliant apprentice who is happy to get involved then please drop an email to [comms@ukwf.org.uk](mailto:comms@ukwf.org.uk).

## A very warm welcome to new UKWF members...

**We're delighted to announce that we've had new members join the UKWF in recent months. Welcome to...**



**First Line Technology Ltd** are based in Northants and joined us in December. They specialise in Industrial Checkweighers and Metal Detectors. Find out more about them at... [firstlinetechnology.co.uk](http://firstlinetechnology.co.uk)

**Geoff, Botterill from EPIC**, joined as an associate member back in November. Geoff's company provides ATEX training and consultancy, and is now a UKWF recommended supplier.



## Dates for your diary...

### 20 January 2021

UKWF Webinar hosted by Ian Turner: Compatibility of Modules

### 13 May 2021 - note the date change from March 2021

UKWF AGM & members meeting – York

### 7 October 2021

UKWF members meeting – Gaydon

### June 2022 - note change of date from June 2021

CECIP GA – London

Get the latest UKWF updates by following us...

You can find us on:

Twitter - @\_ukwf

LinkedIn - @UK Weighing Federation



**LinkedIn**



### UKWF Survey 2021

We want to understand more about your business and what you want to get from your UKWF membership, so we're carrying out a short survey!

A member of the UKWF team will be in touch over the coming weeks to explain more.