



April 2021

Latest News from the UK Weighing Federation

A message from the UKWF President, Graham Spink

Welcome to the latest edition of the UKWF quarterly newsletter.

It has been an interesting quarter as we all dealt with another national lockdown and the UK officially left the EU. While these monumental changes have been happening, the UKWF team has been working hard in the background to continue driving forward the changes the industry wants to see post Brexit.

After many months of lobbying BEIS and the NMO, we received initial guidance from NMO regarding the transition of EU to UK Type Approvals and we are meeting with them monthly to consult on the process.

We were delighted to finally get this guidance and consultation, not only because it was the culmination of many hours of hard work from the UKWF team, but it also demonstrated the influence that the UKWF has on key government decisions. You'll be able to read the latest on this topic and how you can submit applications to the NMO in this newsletter.

In addition, at the beginning of April we announced an exciting new partnership between the UKWF and GAMBICA.

This new collaborative partnership will not only



help to raise the UK weighing industry's profile in other industry sectors, but it also brings so many extra benefits to us all as members. Again, you can read more about this and other work we have been doing in the newsletter.

Finally, we have another technical webinar and the AGM coming up soon so please register your places as soon as you can. I look forward to (hopefully) seeing you all in person at the end of June!

New partnership with GAMBICA

As part of the UKWF's work to strengthen the voice of legal metrology both in the UK and Europe, we have agreed an exciting new partnership with GAMBICA, the trade association for Instrumentation, Control, Automation, and Laboratory Technology in the UK.



The new, collaborative partnership will allow us to not only share expertise and broaden our community; but it will also give us access to market trends and data, information about new technology, changes in standards and regulations, and briefings on industry issues, all of which will be passed onto you, our UKWF member.

It will also mean that you benefit from a number of additional business services including HR, tax, and legal advice, and you will also have access to the free events and webinars, plus receive discounts on paid for events, all hosted by GAMBICA. More information about how to access these services will be available shortly.

The UKWF board and supporting team are dedicated to ensuring that all of our members continue to get real value from their membership and we believe that this partnership is a key step forward for the Federation.

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Here's what UKWF and GAMBICA had to say about the new partnership...

Graham Spink, President of the UKWF, explains:

“The UKWF is the voice of legal metrology in the UK and represents a diverse range of member companies. We are dedicated to ensuring that all of our members continue to get real value from their membership and believe this partnership is a key step forward for the Federation.

“Partnering with GAMBICA will allow the UKWF and its members to become part of a community of related industries where we can gain additional industry knowledge, have access to more information, and strengthen our established relationships with our government stakeholders.

“GAMBICA has a large network of members across a mix of organisations, so we are looking forward to connecting with them, as well as working collaboratively with GAMBICA to lobby Government on legal metrology policy on behalf of our members.”

Steve Brambley, Chief Executive of GAMBICA, commented:

“I'm really delighted to form this collaborative partnership between GAMBICA and the UKWF. It will bring mutual benefit to both associations, strengthening the voice of our industries, sharing expertise, and broadening our community.

“As we seek to continue our influence on UK policy, regulation, and standards in a post-Brexit landscape, adding the voice of the weighing industry will enrich the evidence to support our positions.

“I look forward to working together and creating opportunities for collaboration on webinars, events, guidance and consultations.”

GAMBICA



Adding extra value to your UKWF membership

Our new partnership with GAMBICA is just one of many steps the UKWF has taken to bring additional benefits to your membership with the Federation. Here are a few more of the changes the UKWF team has made in recent months...



UKWF members now have access to ATEX training through associate member, Geoff Botterill from EPIC.



We've significantly increased the amount of lobbying we are doing and as a result we're now having regular meetings with the National Measurement Office (NMO) to drive the changes you want to see.



Increased our social media presence across LinkedIn and Twitter to promote the UK weighing industry.



Our Technical Officer, Ian Turner, is now hosting quarterly technical webinars with regular guest speakers from the wider industry.



We've increased the number of ways we provide you with the latest news and information through a series of newsletters, monthly email activity reports, and technical video blogs.

For more information about any of the new benefits or further changes you'd like to see, then drop us a line at admin@ukwf.org.uk.

NEW DATE FOR THE UKWF AGM

We have moved the AGM date from Thursday 13 May to Wednesday 30 June 2021.

Please confirm if you plan to attend in person by visiting the members section of the UKWF website.

Look forward to seeing you there!



An update from our UKWF Technical Officer, Ian Turner

It has been a strange but busy first few months in 2021 as I have continued to bring you the latest technical and industry information virtually. Although I have to say, I am looking forward to getting out and about more when it is safe to do so.

Much of my time this quarter has been spent lobbying the NMO about the UK type approvals and how we get all of our certificates converted from EU to UK ones

before the end of 2021. I'm pleased to say that we have made good progress in this area and we are optimistic that we can achieve a positive outcome and a cost effective process for our members. We will of course provide more information on this when we have it.

In the meantime, it's important that you still submit your applications to the NMO, as while they might not process them straight away, it will mean you are at the front of queue and will have more assurance that your certificates will be delivered on time. Applications can be made via nmodoitonline.bis.gov.uk. As always, I'm on hand if you need any advice or guidance.



In other news, I have become a vlogger! I know, many members won't believe it.

In all seriousness, it's important for us to provide you with a range of ways that you can access information and updates from the UKWF so each month I will be recording a video blog with some of the key technical updates to accompany the usual monthly email activity report. You can find the video blogs on the members section of the UKWF website.

Also, don't forget that I'm hosting the next of my new technical webinars 10.30am on Wednesday 21 April 2021.

This one is about how Trading Standards are managing the changes that Brexit has brought and I'll be joined by guest speaker Iain Hoey, who is the Principal Trading Standards Officer for Aberdeen City Council.

There is still time to register for a place.



Dates for your diary...

21 April 2021

UKWF Webinar hosted by Ian Turner with guest speaker Iain Hoey, from CTSI. Topic: Trading Standards, post Brexit

30 June 2021 - *note the date change from 13 May 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

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