
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1963 No. 1710

The Weights and Measures Regulations 1963

PART IX

SPRING BALANCES

Principles of construction

86. The extremity of the pointer of a spring balance shall not exceed one-thirty-second of an inch in width, and shall not be more than one-tenth of an inch from the scale or dial.

87. The scales of spring balances shall be subdivided into approximately equal parts, and the minimum width apart of the graduations shall be not less than one-sixteenth of an inch for spring balances of a capacity not exceeding 30 pounds, and not less than one-eighth inch for spring balances of a capacity of 40 pounds or more.

88. The maximum weights corresponding to the interval between consecutive graduations shall be as follows:—

<i>Capacity of spring balance</i>	<i>Maximum weight corresponding to interval between consecutive graduations</i>
1 pound	2 drams
2 pounds to 7 pounds	4 drams
10 pounds to 15 pounds	8 drams
20 pounds to 30 pounds	1 ounce
40 pounds to 60 pounds	2 ounces
100 pounds and over	1/200th of capacity

89. Where the graduations commence at any point of the scale or dial other than at the zero indication, the position of the pointer when there is no load shall be clearly indicated by a zero mark.

90. Spring balances of capacities between 1 pound and 100 pounds inclusive shall only be made in capacities corresponding to those specified in the first column of the table contained in regulation 88.

91. Where spring balances are provided with an adjustable pointer, the range of adjustment shall not exceed 1 per cent, of the capacity of the instrument, except that in the case of spring balances for use at a coal mine it shall not exceed 2 per cent. of the said capacity.

Testing

92. Spring balances shall be tested at each numbered graduation and may also be tested at intermediate graduations.

93.—(1) Spring balances shall be tested by means of both increasing and decreasing loads, and the spring shall be allowed to vibrate before a reading is taken.

(2) In the case of a spring balance the pan of which is above the spring—

- (a) if the pan is not in the form of a scoop, the instrument shall indicate the same weight within half the prescribed limits of error if the centre of a load equal to half the capacity of the instrument is placed on the pan anywhere within a distance from the centre equal to one-third of the greatest length of the pan, or, if the pan has a vertical side, against the middle of that side;
- (b) if the pan is in the form of a scoop, the instrument shall fall within the prescribed limits of error when a load equal to half the capacity of the instrument is placed against the middle of the back of the scoop and again when a like load is placed in any position on the scoop.

(3) In the case of a spring balance the pan of which is below the spring, the instrument shall fall within the prescribed limits of error when a load equal to the capacity of the instrument is placed in any position on the pan.

94. Parts I and IV of Schedule 2 hereto shall have effect for prescribing limits of error in relation to spring balances.

95. Spring balances may be tested for efficiency or ability to recover by leaving on them for a period not exceeding 24 hours, a load equal to the capacity of the instrument; and then, after the expiration of a further period of 4 hours, by testing for accuracy.

96. Spring balances shall not be tested for sensitiveness.

Stamping

97. The stamp shall be placed upon the plug or stud provided for that purpose, which wherever practicable shall pass through the scale or dial and the frame of the spring balance. The plug or stud shall be so supported as to avoid risk of injury to the instrument by stamping.