

1980 No. 84

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980

Made 4th March 1980

Coming into operation 31st March 1980

The Department(a) of Commerce, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 15(4)(a) and (d) of the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(b) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980 and shall come into operation on 31st March 1980.

Amendment of the Regulations of 1976

2. The Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976(c) shall have effect subject to the following amendments:

- (a) in Regulation 6 for "and 8" substitute, "8 and 11(6)";
- (b) for Regulation 10(3) and (4)(d) substitute:

"(3) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), in the case of any container marked after 31st March 1980 which is required to be marked with any information as to quantity by measurement of the goods contained in it the marking shall be in metric units but may, in addition, be in imperial units.

(4) In the case of goods which were on 31st March 1979 required by or under the Act to be pre-packed only if made up in specified quantities and which since that date have been required or are subsequently required to be pre-packed only if made up in specified metric quantities, the marking of quantity shall be, for a period of one year after the date on which they have been required or are subsequently required to be pre-packed only if made up in specified metric quantities as the case may be, in both metric units and imperial units.

(5) In the case of other goods which, on 31st March 1979, were required by or under the Act to be pre-packed only if made up in either specified imperial or metric quantities or in imperial quantities only the marking of quantity shall be in both metric and imperial units.";

- (c) for Regulation 11(3) substitute:

"(3) In a case where the relevant goods are required by or under the Act to be pre-packed only if made up in specified quantities the marking shall—

- (a) first indicate the quantity in which they are made up; and
- (b) if the quantity in which they are made up is in metric units, include the words "metric pack".

(a) Formerly Ministry: see 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)

(b) 1967 c. 6 (N.I.)

(c) S.R. 1976 No. 155 (I, p. 729) as amended by S.R. 1978 No. 126 (I, p. 374)

(d) As substituted by S.R. 1978 No. 126 (I, p. 374) Reg. 2(f)

Sub-paragraph (b) shall however only apply to goods which were on 31st March 1979 required to be pre-packed only if made up in specified quantities, whether both imperial and metric quantities were specified or only imperial quantities, and in respect of which the relevant period of one year mentioned in Regulation 10(4) has not expired.”; and

(d) after Regulation 11(5) add:—

“(6) Notwithstanding anything in Regulation 10 of the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(e), in the case of milk any marking of any quantity in imperial units shall be entirely in terms of the pint, quart or gallon. In this paragraph “milk” means cows’ milk in any liquid form other than that of condensed milk (including evaporated milk) or of cream.”

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Commerce for Northern Ireland on 4th March 1980.

(L.S.)

W. T. McCrory

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

1. These Regulations amend Regulations 10 and 11 of the Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976 (S.R. 1976 No. 155 as amended by S.R. 1978 No. 126) which relate to the use of metric and imperial units in the marking of containers.

2. The basic requirement remains that where the container of goods is required to be marked with quantity by measurement, that marking shall be in metric units but may also be in imperial units (Regulation 2(b)).

3. In the case of pre-packed goods required to be made up in specified quantities and which on any date after 31st March 1979 are required to be made up in metric quantities only, the marking must be in both metric and imperial units for one year after that date (Regulation 2(b)). In addition the existing requirement that such containers must be marked "metric pack" continues for that year (Regulation 2(c)).

4. In the case of any other pre-packed goods which on 31st March 1979 were required to be made up in imperial quantities (whether or not a range of metric quantities is prescribed as an alternative) then the marking must be in both imperial and metric quantities (Regulation 2(b)).

5. In the case of milk (which comes within the case mentioned in paragraph 4 above) there is an additional provision that any marking in imperial units shall be only in terms of the pint, quart or gallon (Regulation 2(d)).

6. Failure to comply with the requirements of these Regulations is an offence under the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967 as amended.