

1977 No. 1683

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

**The Weights and Measures (Marking of Goods and
Abbreviations of Units) (Amendment) Regulations 1977**

<i>Made - - - -</i>	<i>17th October 1977</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	<i>18th October 1977</i>
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	<i>8th November 1977</i>

The Secretary of State, in exercise of powers conferred by sections 14(1)(*f*), 21(4)(*a*) and (*d*) and 54(1) of the Weights and Measures Act 1963(**a**) and now vested in him (**b**), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Marking of Goods and Abbreviations of Units) (Amendment) Regulations 1977 and shall come into operation on 8th November 1977.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(**c**) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. The Weights and Measures (Marking of Goods and Abbreviations of Units) Regulations 1975(**d**) shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(*a*) for Regulation 1(2) there shall be substituted the following:—

“(2) Nothing in these Regulations shall require compliance therewith in any case in which a container which is required to be marked with information as to the quantity of goods made up therein by virtue of Schedule 4, 6, 7 or 8 to the Act, or by virtue of the Weights and Measures Act 1963 (Dentifrices) Order 1974(**e**), is marked before 1st January 1978 in a manner which accords with the provisions of the Weights and Measures (Marking of Goods and Abbreviations of Units) Regulations 1970(**f**):

Provided that the preceding provision shall, in the case of returnable bottles so marked with embossed or fired-on markings, have effect as if 1st January 1980 were substituted therein for 1st January 1978.”;

(*b*) in Regulation 5(2) there shall be added the following proviso:—

“Provided that nothing in this paragraph prohibits the use for trade of the abbreviations c.c. and cu.cm, lit, kilo and kilog, and grm to indicate the units of measurement cubic centimetre, litre, kilogram and gram respectively if the use occurs by reason only that the abbreviation forms part of a marking on a container of information

(**a**) 1963 c. 31.

(**c**) 1889 c. 63.

(**e**) S.I. 1974/874 (1974 II, p. 3338).

(**b**) S.I. 1970/1537 (1970 III, p. 5293).

(**d**) S.I. 1975/1319 (1975 II, p. 4451).

(**f**) S.I. 1970/350 (1970 I, p. 1247).

as to the quantity of goods made up therein and that marking was applied to the container before 1st January 1978, or in the case of returnable bottles with embossed or fired-on markings, before 1st January 1980.”;

(c) for Regulation 7 there shall be substituted the following:—

“7.—(1) Subject to Regulations 8 and 9 hereof and to paragraph (2) below, any unit of measurement set out in Schedule 2. hereto may be used in marking any container which is so required to be marked with information as to quantity by measurement.

(2) This Regulation does not apply to a tube containing dentifrice or an outer container containing such a tube.”;

(d) for Regulation 9(5) there shall be substituted the following:—

“(5) Any marking indicating any volume—

(a) of 0.01 cubic metre or more shall be entirely in terms of cubic metres and fractions of a cubic metre; and

(b) of less than 0.01 cubic metre shall be entirely in terms of cubic centimetres and fractions of a cubic centimetre;

(c) of one litre or more shall be entirely in terms of litres and fractions of a litre;

(d) of less than one litre shall be entirely in terms of centilitres and fractions of a centilitre, or entirely in terms of millilitres.”;

(e) in Regulation 10(4), the proviso shall be omitted;

(f) for Regulation 11 there shall be substituted the following:—

“11.—(1) This Regulation does not apply to dentifrices to which Regulation 7(1) does not apply by virtue of paragraph (2) thereof.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3) below, goods marked before 1st January 1980 shall—

(a) in the case of perfume and toilet preparations other than soap, be marked by quantity in metric or imperial units or both;

(b) in the case of solid fuel made up in imperial quantities in a coal sack or other open topped container, be marked by quantity in imperial units;

(c) in the case of any goods which are required to be marked with quantity by measurement other than goods to which sub-paragraph (a) or (b) applies, be marked by quantity in both metric and imperial units.

(3) Without prejudice to paragraph (4) below, in the case of goods which were on 17th October 1977 required to be made up in specified quantities, the marking shall, if made after the expiry of the period of one year beginning with the date on which it ceased to be lawful to make up the goods in specified imperial quantities, be made in metric units, but may, in addition, be in imperial units.

(4) Goods required to be marked with quantity by measurement which are marked after 31st December 1979 shall be marked by quantity in metric units, but may, in addition, be marked in imperial units.”;

(g) for the proviso to Regulation 12(3) there shall be substituted the following:—

“Provided that subparagraph (b) shall apply only to goods which

were on 6th August 1975 required to be 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 11(2) has not expired.”;

- (h) in Part I of Schedule 1, column 3 shall be deleted;
- (i) in Schedule 2, to the item relating to volume, there shall be added in the second column the following:—
- “litre
centilitre
millilitre”;
- (j) in Schedule 3—
- (i) for the first entry in the item relating to mass or weight, there shall be substituted the following:—
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| “Not exceeding 50g | 2mm |
| Exceeding 50g but not exceeding 200g | 3mm”; |
- (ii) for the first entry in the item relating to capacity, there shall be substituted the following:—
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| “Not exceeding 5cl | 2mm |
| Exceeding 5cl but not exceeding 20cl | 3mm”; |
- (iii) to the item relating to volume, there shall be added the following:—
- | | |
|--|-------|
| “Not exceeding 5cl | 2mm |
| Exceeding 5cl but not exceeding 20cl | 3mm |
| Exceeding 20cl but not exceeding 1 litre | 4mm |
| Exceeding 1 litre | 6mm”. |

John Fraser,

Minister of State,

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection.

17th October 1977.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Weights and Measures (Marking of Goods and Abbreviations of Units) Regulations 1975. The principal changes are:—

- (a) containers which are required by virtue of Schedules 4, 6, 7 and 8 to the Weights and Measures Act 1963 or by any Order under section 21 thereof to be marked with information as to the quantity by measurement of goods made up therein will be required to be marked in metric units only (although they may be marked in imperial units in addition) after 31st December 1979;
- (b) such containers of goods which are, at the time of the making of these Regulations, required to be made up only in specified quantities, are required to be marked with quantity in metric units only (although they may be marked in imperial units in addition), at the end of one year after it ceases to be lawful to make up the goods in specified imperial quantities;
- (c) litres, centilitres and millilitres may be used to indicate quantity by volume;
- (d) references to alternative spellings of “gramme” and its compounds, which have become unnecessary due to the provisions of section 1(4) of the Weights and Measures &c. Act 1976 (c.77), are deleted.

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