1978 No. 126

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1978

Made . . . . . 15*th May* 1978
Coming into operation . . . . 1*st July* 1978

The Department(**a**) of Commerce, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 8(1)(*f*) and 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 on 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) 1978 and shall come into operation on 1st July 1978.

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*) for Regulation 1(2) substitute:—

"(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 2, 4, 5, or 6 to the Act, or by virtue of the Weights and Measures (Dentifrices) Order (Northern Ireland) 1974(**d**), is marked before 1st January 1978 in a manner which accords with the provisions of the Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations of Units of Measurement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(**e**).";

(*b*) after Regulation 4(2) add:—

"(3) Nothing in paragraph (2) shall prohibit 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 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 6 substitute:—

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

(**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)
(**d**) S.R. 1974 No. 282 (II, p. 1342)
(**e**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 102 (p. 480)

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

(*d*) for Regulation 8(5) substitute:

"(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 9(4) the proviso shall be deleted;

(*f*) for Regulation 10 substitute:—

"**10.**—(1) This Regulation does not apply to dentifrices to which Regulation 6(1) does not apply by virtue of paragraph (2) thereof.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), 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), in the case of goods which were on 15th May 1978 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 11(3) substitute:—

"Provided that sub-paragraph (*b*) shall apply only to goods which were on 3rd May 1976 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 10(3) has not expired.";

(*h*) in Part I of Schedule 1, delete column 3;

(*i*) in Schedule 2, to the item relating to volume, add in the second column:—

"litre
centilitre
millilitre";

(*j*) in Schedule 3—

(i) for the first entry in the item relating to mass or weight, substitute:—

"Not exceeding 50g	2mm
Exceeding 50g but not exceeding 200g	3mm";

(ii) for the first entry in the item relating to capacity, substitute:—

"Not exceeding 5cl	2mm
Exceeding 5cl but not exceeding 20cl	3mm";

(iii) to the item relating to volume, add:—

"Not exceeding 5cl	2mm
Exceeding 5cl but not exceeding 20cl	3mm
Exceeding 20cl but not exceeding 1 litre	4mm
Exceeding 1 litre	6mm".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Commerce for Northern Ireland on 15th May 1978.

(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.)

These Regulations amend the Weights and Measures (Marking and Abbreviations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976. The principal changes are:—

(*a*) containers which are required by virtue of Schedules 2, 4, 5, and 6 to the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967 or by any Order under section 15 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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This Order has been exempted from printing by the Statutory Rules Act (Northern Ireland) 1958. A summary is given in the List of Statutory Rules of a Local Character under the heading ROADS.