1977 No. 136

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The Weights and Measures (Weights) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1977

Made . . . . . 18*th May* 1977

Coming into operation . . . . . 1*st August* 1977

The Department(**a**) of Commerce, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 5(3) and 8(1) of the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(**b**) 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 (Weights) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1977 and shall come into operation on 1st August 1977.

Revocation and application

2. The Weights and Measures (Weights) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971(**c**) shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(*a*) for paragraph 1 of the Table in Regulations 5 shall be substituted the following:—

"1. *Metric weights* (other than carat (metric) weights):	
(i) The irregular octahedronal form described in Schedule 2 hereto	Weights of 25kg.
(ii) The rectangular form described in that Schedule	Weights of 5kg, 10kg or 20kg.
(iii) The cylindrical form described in that Schedule	Weights of not more than 10kg nor less than 20g and of 10, 5, 2 and 1g.
(iv) The hexagonal form described in that Schedule	Weights of not more than 2kg nor less than 100g.
(v) The disc form described in that Schedule	Weights of not more than 20g nor less than 1g.
(vi) Flat type	Weights of not more than 1g nor less than 10mg.
(vii) Wire type	Weights of 50mg or less";

(*b*) for Regulation 9 there shall be substituted the following:—

"**9.**—(1) Except in the case of a weight of 25 kilogrammes, an inspector shall test a weight by comparison with an appropriate local or working standard weight by the method of substitution on a balance or beamscale or, if he considers it sufficient, by direct comparison.

(**a**) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(**b**) 1967 c. 6 (N.I.)
(**c**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971 No. 342 (p. 1578)

(2) In the case of a weight of 25 kilogrammes an inspector shall test the weight by comparison with two local or working standard weights, one of 20 kilogrammes and the other of 5 kilogrammes, by the method of substitution on a balance or beamscale or, if he considers it sufficient, by direct comparison";

(*c*) for Schedule 2 there shall be substituted the following:—

"SCHEDULE 2

Form of Metric Weights

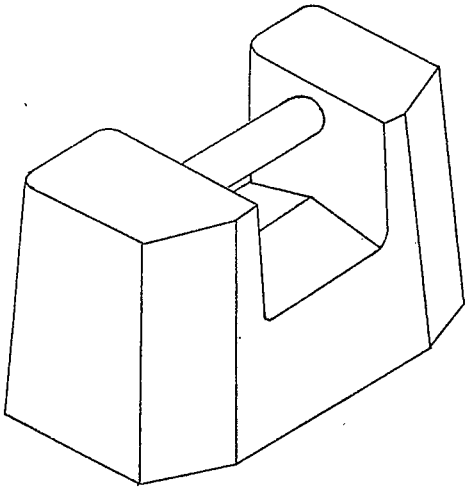
Irregular octahedronal

1. The form of irregular octahedronal weight referred to in paragraph (1)(i) of the Table in Regulation 5 shall be as shown in the diagram below, being the rectangular form shown in paragraph 2 below cut away vertically on two corners of the same side. The cutaway sections shall be identical, and so proportioned that—

(i) the width of each end of the weight shall not be more than 80 per cent. of the full cross-sectional width; and

(ii) the length of the side thus formed shall not be more than 60 per cent. of the full cross-sectional length.

The length and the width of the weight may vary to the extent permitted for the rectangular weight in sub-paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*) of paragraph 2 below.



(Viewed obliquely and from above the level of the top surface)

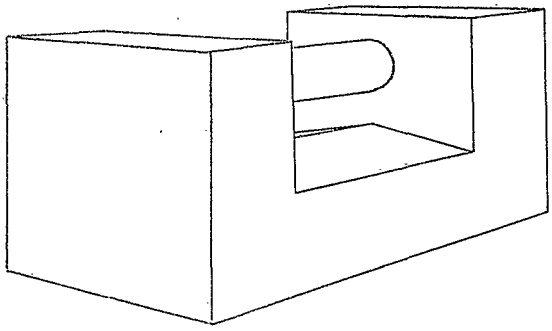
Rectangular

2. The form of rectangular weight referred to in paragraph 1(ii) of the Table in Regulation 5 shall be as shown in diagrams (i), (ii) and (iii) below, except that—

(*a*) the length of the weight at the top and the length at the bottom may differ by an amount which does not exceed 5 per cent. of the smaller length; and

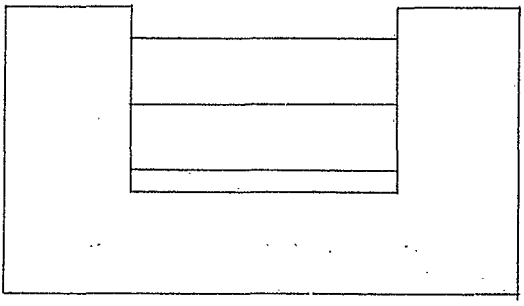
(*b*) the width of the upper surface and the width of the lower surface may differ by an amount which does not exceed 10 per cent. of the smaller width.

Diagram (i)



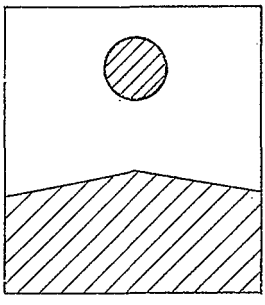
(Viewed obliquely and from above the level of the top surface)

Diagram (ii)



(Viewed from the side)

Diagram (iii)



(Viewed from the end)

Cylindrical

3. The form of cylindrical weight referred to in paragraph 1(iii) of the said Table shall be such that—

(*a*) any horizontal section is circular;

(*b*) the body of the weight is of constant diameter;

(*c*) a flat-topped knob is provided in such a manner that a neck is produced between the knob and the body;

(*d*) the neck is cylindrical, tapered or waisted and its height is such that it does not readily provide a lodging place for extraneous matter; and

(*e*) the maximum diameter of the knob is not greater than, nor less than one-half of, the diameter of the body.

Hexagonal

4. The form of hexagonal weight referred to in paragraph 1(iv) of the said Table shall be such that—

(*a*) any horizontal section is a regular hexagon;

(*b*) all the sides are flat;

(*c*) the shortest distance across the base is not less than 80 per cent. nor more than 120 per cent. of the shortest distance across the top; and

(*d*) the height is not less than 45 per cent. nor more than 55 per cent. of the shortest distance across the top or, if the base is smaller in area than the top, across the base.

Disc

5. The form of disc weight referred to in paragraph 1(v) of the said Table shall be a circular disc the thickness of which is not less than one-sixth nor more than one-third of the diameter".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Commerce for Northern Ireland on 18th May 1977.

(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 (Weights) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971. They require a special shape for weights of 25 kilogrammes for use for trade, and provide that such weights shall be tested against two local or working standard weights, one of 20 kilogrammes and the other of 5 kilogrammes.

The Regulations also allow a wider variation in the shape of cylindrical weights.