

The Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006

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For advice on compliance, please contact your Home or Primary Authority or your [local Trading Standards office](#).

2006 No. 659

Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006

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Coming into force 6th April 2006*

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 15(1) and 86 of the Weights and Measures Act 1985 and section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 makes the following Regulations.

In accordance with section 86(2)(b) of the Weights and Measures Act 1985, the Secretary of State has consulted such organisations as appear to him to be representative of interests substantially affected by these Regulations.

The Secretary of State is a Minister designated for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 in relation to the regulation, labelling and control of packages and products made up to a pre-determined constant nominal quantity.

Citation, commencement, revocation and extent

1. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006 and shall come into force on 6th April 2006.

(2) The enactments listed in Part 1 of Schedule 1 are repealed or revoked, and the enactments listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 are amended, to the extent there specified.

(3) These Regulations do not extend to Northern Ireland.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations--

"batch" means a group of packages selected in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2 for the purposes of conducting a reference test;

"bread" means bread in the form of single loaves (whether or not sliced);

"cosmetic product" has the meaning given by [Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on cosmetic products (recast) as amended from time to time¹];

"credentials", in relation to an inspector, means written authority, given by the local weights and measures authority who appointed him, for the inspector to exercise the powers conferred on inspectors by these Regulations;

"the E-mark" means a letter 'e', at least 3 mm high, having the form shown in Schedule

4; ["food" has the meaning set out in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002;²]

"importer" means, in relation to a package or outer container, the person by whom, or on whose behalf, the package or outer container is brought into the United Kingdom;

"inspector" means an inspector of weights and measures appointed under section 72(1) of the 1985 Act;

"knitting yarn" means knitting yarn consisting of natural fibres (whether animal, vegetable or mineral), chemical fibres, or a mixture of such fibres;

¹ Substituted by SI 2013/1478, Sch 5 (17)(a).

² Inserted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 36(a).

["labelling requirements" means the requirements set out in Regulations 5(1)(a), 5(2), 6(1)(a), 6(1)(b), 6(2), 7, 8(1) and 8(3)(d);³

"local weights and measures authority" has the same meaning as in section 69 of the 1985 Act;

["mass caterer" means any establishment (including a vehicle or a fixed or mobile stall), such as restaurants, canteens, schools, hospitals and catering enterprises in which, in the course of a business, food is prepared to be ready for consumption by the final consumer;⁴

"Member State" means a member State, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein;

"negative error" means the quantity by which the contents of a package are less than the nominal quantity;

"nominal quantity" means the weight or volume marked on or in respect of a package pursuant to regulation 5(1)(a) or 6(1)(a), or entered in a record made under regulation 5(2) or 6(2) [or, in the case of pre-packed food, the net quantity as required under Regulation 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to the consumers⁵];

"outer container" means a container which contains two or more items, at least one of which is a package to which these Regulations apply, provided that:

- (a) the items were placed in the container without the purchaser being present;
- (b) the items cannot be removed from the container without the container being opened or undergoing a perceptible modification; and
- (c) the container is intended, or would normally be regarded as appropriate, for sale to an ultimate consumer as the outermost layer of packaging;

"package" means the combination of a product and the individual package in which it is packed, provided that:

- (a) the product is placed in the package without the purchaser being present; and
- (b) except in the case of knitting yarn, the quantity of the product in the package cannot be altered without the package being opened or undergoing a perceptible modification;

"packer" means the person who placed the product in the package or the packages in the outer container;

["pre-packed" means, in relation to food, any single item for presentation as such to the final consumer and to mass caterers, consisting of a food and the packaging into which it was put before being offered for sale, whether such packaging encloses the food completely or only partially, but in any event in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or changing the packaging; 'pre-packed food' does not cover foods packed on the sales premises at the consumer's request or pre-packed for direct sale;⁶

"reference test" means the tests set out in Schedule 2;

"the 1985 Act" means the Weights and Measures Act 1985;

"the 1986 Regulations" means the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 1986;

"tolerable negative error" means the amount set out in the table in Schedule 3 in relation to the nominal quantity of the package.

Scope of application

3. (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) to (6), these Regulations apply to:

- (a) packages intended for sale in constant unit nominal quantities which are:

³ Inserted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 36(b).

⁴ Inserted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 36(c).

⁵ Inserted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 36(d).

⁶ Inserted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 36(e).

- (i) equal to values predetermined by the packer;
 - (ii) expressed in units of weight or volume; and
 - (iii) of not less than 5 grams or 5 millilitres and not more than 25 kilograms or 25 litres;
- (b) outer containers.
- (2) These Regulations also apply to bread which is sold either unwrapped or in open packets if:
- (i) it has been made up to a pre-determined constant quantity; and
 - (ii) it is intended for sale in constant unit nominal quantities expressed in units of weight, which are not less than 300 grams per loaf and not more than 10 kilograms per loaf.
- (3) Schedule 5 sets out modifications in the application of these Regulations to bread.
- (4) These Regulations do not apply to packages which are not marked with the E-mark and which:
- (a) contain a product which is intended solely for use in, or in connection with, a process or treatment in the course of a trade or business;
 - (b) contain a product which is:
 - (i) intended, and which would normally be regarded as appropriate, for sale to an ultimate consumer; and
 - (ii) made up in quantities of less than 5 grams or 5 millilitres;

where the packages are not intended, or would not normally be regarded as appropriate, for sale to an ultimate consumer;

- (c) contain a single application of a cosmetic product;
 - (d) are intended for despatch outside the United Kingdom;
 - (e) are intended for use by Her Majesty's forces or by a visiting force within the meaning of any of the provisions of Part I of the Visiting Forces Act 1952;
 - (f) are intended for use as stores within the meaning of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 in a ship, aircraft or hovercraft on a voyage or flight to an eventual destination outside Great Britain; or
 - (g) [contain sugar in a quantity of less than 20 g^{7,8}].
- (5) Regulations 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9 shall not apply to a package or an outer container which has been:
- (a) packed in, or imported into, a Member State other than the United Kingdom;
 - (b) marked with the E-mark in accordance with the law of that Member State; and
 - (c) marked with the name and address of the person in that Member State who packed or imported the package or outer container, or who arranged for the package or outer container to be packed,

if, after the package or outer container has left that Member State, at least one of the following conditions is satisfied in relation to it:

- (a) it has not entered a country which is not a Member State;
- (b) it has been sealed at all times in a container bearing a customs seal;

⁷ Exemptions from the requirements of the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006 for small quantities of certain packaged goods which are not marked with the e-mark are in general incompatible with Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to consumers and cannot be maintained after 13 December 2014. However, Article 11 of that Regulation provides that it is without prejudice to more specific EU provisions on weights and measures: Article 2(2) of the Council Directive 2011/111/EC of 20 December 2011 relating to certain sugars intended for human consumption provides an exemption from quantity labelling for pre-packed sugar in a quantity less than 20g, therefore an exemption is permitted in relation to sugar.

⁸ Substituted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 37(a).

(c) there has been no reasonable opportunity for any person to alter the quantity of the product contained within it.

[(6) The labelling requirements do not apply to pre-packed food that is not marked with the E-mark, except that Regulation 8(1) shall continue to apply where trade practice provides that liquid products may be marked with nominal quantity by weight and that packages containing other products may be marked with nominal quantity by volume.⁹]

Duty to comply with the three packers' rules

4. (1) It shall be the duty of the packer or importer of packages to ensure that they are made up in such a way as to satisfy the following rules--

(a) the contents of the packages shall be not less on average than the nominal quantity;

(b) the proportion of packages having a negative error greater than the tolerable negative error shall be sufficiently small for batches of packages to satisfy the requirements specified in Schedule 2;

(c) no package shall have a negative error greater than twice the tolerable negative error.

(2) Compliance with the rules in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b) shall be determined by the reference test.

Duty of packers and importers to mark packages

5. (1) It shall be the duty of the packer or the importer of a package to ensure that the package is marked, in such a manner as to be indelible, easily legible and visible in normal conditions of presentation, with the following--

(a) the nominal quantity, being the predetermined constant quantity in which that package is made up (including any additional quantity to which any statement on the package refers) in accordance with regulation 8; and

(b) the name and address of a person established in the United Kingdom who is either--

(i) the packer or the importer of the package, or

(ii) the person who arranged for the packer to make up, or the importer to import, the package,

or a mark which enables the name and address of such a person to be readily ascertained by his local weights and measures authority.

(2) If at the time when a package is made up or imported the package is not marked with the nominal quantity as mentioned in paragraph (1)(a), it shall be the duty of the packer or the importer of the package--

(a) to decide what he proposes to mark on the package in pursuance of that sub-paragraph, and

(b) to make at that time, and to maintain until such time as the package is so marked, a record of the same.

(3) A packer or importer may mark a package which--

(a) is made up to comply with the requirements in regulation 4; and

(b) has a nominal quantity not exceeding 10 kilograms or 10 litres,

with the E-mark, in which case the mark shall be indelible, easily legible and visible in normal conditions of presentation and be placed in the same field of vision as the indication of nominal quantity required by paragraph (1)(a).

(4) Paragraphs (1) and (2) above shall not apply to milk which is sold or supplied to a consumer in a returnable container.

(5) Where a package is sold or supplied to a consumer by a packer from his own premises, or from a vehicle used solely by him, paragraph (1)(b) shall only apply to that package if it is marked with the E-mark.

(6) A packer or importer is not obliged to mark a package which is contained within an outer container and which is not intended, and would not normally be regarded as appropriate, for sale to an ultimate consumer as a separate item.

⁹ Substituted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 37(b).

(7) Where [Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on cosmetic products (recast), as amended from time to time, requires a package to bear information about the responsible person, as defined in Article 4 of that Regulation¹⁰].

Duty of packers and importers to mark outer containers

6. (1) It shall be the duty of the packer or the importer of an outer container, to ensure that an outer container is marked, in such a manner as to be indelible, easily legible and visible in normal conditions of presentation, with the following--

- (a) the nominal quantity of the packages contained in the outer container, being the predetermined constant quantity in which those packages are made up (including any additional quantity to which any statement on the package or outer container refers), or where the packages have different nominal quantities, each distinct nominal quantity, marked in accordance with regulation 8;
- (b) the number of packages contained in the outer container, or where the packages have different nominal quantities, the number of packages corresponding to each nominal quantity; and
- (c) the name and address of a person established in the United Kingdom who is either--
 - (i) the packer or the importer of the packages contained in the outer container, or
 - (ii) the person who arranged for the packer to make up, or the importer to import, those packages,

or a mark which enables the name and address of such a person to be readily ascertained by his local weights and measures authority.

(2) If at the time when an outer container is packed or imported the outer container is not marked with the nominal quantities and number of packages as mentioned in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b), it shall be the duty of the packer or the importer of the outer container--

- (a) to decide what he proposes to mark on the outer container in pursuance of those sub-paragraphs, and
- (b) to make at that time, and to maintain until such time as the outer container is so marked, a record of the same.

(3) If an outer container contains one or more packages which are, or could lawfully be, marked with the E-mark, then the outer container may also be marked with the E-mark, provided the E-mark--

- (a) is affixed in such a way that it refers only to, and is in the same field of vision as, the nominal quantity of the package or packages which are, or could lawfully be, marked with an E-mark; and
- (b) is indelible, easily legible and visible in normal conditions of presentation.

(4) Where an outer container is sold or supplied to a consumer by the packer of the outer container from the packer's own premises, or from a vehicle used solely by him, paragraph (1)(c) shall only apply to that outer container if it is marked with the E-mark.

(5) A packer or an importer of an outer container need not mark the outer container with the information required by paragraphs (1)(a) to (c) above if information is marked on inner packaging which can be viewed without opening the outer container and the information required by paragraphs (1)(a) to (c) can be readily ascertained from such information.

(6) Where [Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on cosmetic products (recast) as amended from time to time, requires an outer container to bear information about the responsible person, as defined in Article 4 of that Regulation¹¹].

Liability for labelling packages and outer containers

¹⁰ Substituted by SI 2013/1478, Sch 5 (17)(b) .

¹¹ Substituted by SI 2013/1478, Sch 5(17)(c).

7. Where an indication of nominal quantity is marked on a package or an outer container otherwise than pursuant to the duty imposed on a packer or importer by regulation 5(1) or regulation 6(1), then the person who marks that indication shall be subject to the duties imposed by these Regulations as though he were the packer of the package or outer container.

Specific requirements as to quantity marking

8. (1) Packages containing liquid products shall be marked with the nominal quantity by volume and packages containing other products shall be marked with the nominal quantity by weight except where the law provides otherwise or, in the absence of a legal requirement, trade practice provides otherwise.

(2) Where a package containing a solid foodstuff presented in a liquid medium (as defined by Article 8(4) of Directive 2000/13/EC) is marked with the net drained weight then that is to be treated as the nominal quantity.

(3) Information as to the nominal quantity shall be marked in accordance with the following requirements:

- (a) the nominal quantity shall be expressed in the permitted metric units (except for milk in returnable packages where it may be expressed in pints) with the numerical value expressed in figures followed by the unit of measurement expressed in words or the relevant permitted symbol;
- (b) the permitted metric units and their symbols are:

<i>Unit of measurement (metric)</i>	<i>symbol</i>
kilogram	kg
gram	g
litre	l or L
centilitre	cl or cL
millilitre	ml or mL

(c) a quantity (other than a fraction of a pint) shall not be expressed as a vulgar fraction;

(d) the figures and words or symbols in which the nominal quantity is marked shall be of the following minimum height:

<i>Nominal quantity and unit of measurement</i>	<i>Minimum height of words or figures</i>
exceeding 1 kg	6 mm
exceeding 200 g but not exceeding 1 kg	4 mm
exceeding 50 g but not exceeding 200 g	3 mm
not exceeding 50 g	2 mm
exceeding 1 L	6 mm
exceeding 20 cl but not exceeding 1 L	4 mm
exceeding 5 cl but not exceeding 20 cl	3 mm
not exceeding 5 cl	2 mm

(e) where milk is supplied in a returnable container with the nominal quantity expressed in pints, it may additionally be marked with an indication of the nominal quantity expressed in metric units in accordance with this regulation, which indication shall not be more prominent (and in particular the figures and words or symbols shall not be larger) than the indication of the nominal quantity in pints;

(f) any supplementary indications in imperial units allowed by section 8(5A) of the 1985 Act shall be expressed in the permitted imperial units with the numerical value expressed in figures followed by the unit of measurement expressed in words or the relevant permitted abbreviation and shall not be more prominent (and in particular the figures and words or abbreviations shall not be larger) than the metric indication;

(g) the permitted imperial units and their abbreviations are:

<i>Unit of measurement (imperial)</i>	<i>abbreviation</i>
gallon	gal
quart	qt
pint	pt
fluid ounce	fl oz
pound	lb
ounce	oz

(h) if the word "net" is used it shall not be abbreviated.

Packers' and importers' duties as to equipment, checks and documentation

9. (1) It shall be the duty of a packer in making up packages either--

- (a) to measure the product contained in each package using equipment which complies with paragraph (2) to ensure that the packages are packed in accordance with regulation 4(1), or
- (b) to carry out checks on the product contained in the packages using a system of sampling and tests which are sufficiently rigorous to ensure that the packages are packed in accordance with regulation 4(1), and for this purpose--
 - (i) to use equipment which complies with paragraph (2), and
 - (ii) to make, and to keep until the relevant date, a record of the checks, together with a record of the corrections and adjustments which they have shown to be necessary.

(2) Equipment complies with this paragraph if it is suitable for the use to which it is put.

(3) It shall be the duty of an importer--

- (a) to carry out such a check as is mentioned in paragraph (1)(b) and to comply with sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) of that paragraph in connection with the check; or
- (b) to obtain, before the packages leave his possession, sufficient evidence to give reasonable grounds for believing that the packages have been packed in accordance with regulation 4(1).

(4) The importer shall keep, until the relevant date, the evidence obtained for the purposes of paragraph 3(b).

(5) The relevant date, for the purposes of paragraphs (1)(b)(ii) and (4), is either:

- (a) the date, as marked on the package, which indicates by when the product ought to be consumed; or
- (b) one year after the packages have left the possession of the packer or importer (as appropriate),

whichever occurs first.

Enforcement by local weights and measures authority

10. (1) Subject to paragraph (3) below, it shall be the duty of a local weights and measures authority to enforce the provisions of these Regulations within the area of the authority.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3) below, proceedings for an offence under these Regulations shall not be instituted except by or on behalf of a local weights and measures authority.

(3) Proceedings for an offence under regulation 16 shall not be instituted in England or Wales except by or on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

(4) Proceedings for an offence under these Regulations, other than an offence under regulation 16, shall not be instituted after the expiration of the period of twelve months beginning with the date when the offence was committed.

- (5) Schedule 7, which confers powers on inspectors and local weights and measures authorities, shall have effect.
- (6) Nothing in these Regulations shall authorise any weights and measures authority to bring proceedings in Scotland for an offence.

Notices to local weights and measures authorities

11. (1) Subject to paragraph (4), it shall be the duty of--

- (a) the packer of packages which are marked with the E-mark and which he intends to export from the United Kingdom,
- (b) a person who intends to import packages which are so marked and to export them from the United Kingdom to another Member State, or
- (c) a person who intends to import packages, to mark them with the E-mark and to export them as mentioned in sub-paragraph (b),

to give to the local weights and measures authority for the area in which the packages were packed or in which the place of intended import is situated, a notice in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) A notice under paragraph (1)--

- (a) shall be given in writing before the expiry of the day on which--
 - (i) in a case falling within paragraph (1)(a), the packages in question are marked with the E-mark, or
 - (ii) in a case falling within paragraph (1)(b) or (c), the packages in question are imported; and
- (b) shall specify the place where the packages were packed or the place of intended import.

(3) Where a person has given a notice pursuant to paragraph (1), an inspector may serve a notice in writing on that person requiring him to provide to the inspector such further information about the packages as is specified in the notice.

(4) A person shall be under no duty to give a notice under paragraph (1) if:

- (a) the place where the packages were packed or the place to which he intends to import the packages, has already been specified by him in a previous notice to a local weights and measures authority given pursuant to paragraph (1); and
- (b) he has not, since that previous notice was given, informed that local weights and measures authority that he no longer uses that place for an activity falling within sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) of paragraph (1).

Instructions by inspectors

12. (1) If an inspector has reasonable cause to believe that a person has failed to perform the duty imposed on him by regulation 4 in relation to a batch of packages, the inspector may give to the person in possession of the packages instructions in writing--

- (a) specifying the packages, and
- (b) requiring that person to keep the packages at a place specified in the instructions and at the disposal of the inspector until the end of the next working day after the instructions have been issued, or for such shorter period as the inspector may specify.

(2) If an inspector has reasonable cause to believe that a person has failed to perform the duty imposed on him by regulation 9(1) or 9(3), the inspector may give to that person such instructions in writing as the inspector considers appropriate with a view to ensuring that that person does not subsequently fail to perform that duty.

(3) Instructions given to a person by an inspector under paragraph (2) shall not come into force until the expiration of 21 days beginning with the day when the instructions are given to him and, if during that period that person gives notice to

the inspector that he objects to the instructions, they shall not come into force except as agreed in writing by that person or as directed by the Secretary of State.

(4) Where under paragraph (3) a person gives to an inspector notice of objection to instructions, it shall be the duty of the inspector to refer the instructions to the Secretary of State.

(5) Where instructions are referred to the Secretary of State in pursuance of paragraph (4), it shall be his duty--

- (a) to invite representations in writing about the instructions from the inspector who gave them and from the person to whom they were given;
- (b) to consider any representations made in response to the invitations within a period specified in the invitations;
- (c) either to direct that the instructions shall come into force, without modifications or with modifications specified in the direction, on a day so specified or to direct that they shall not come into force, and
- (d) to give notice of the direction to the inspector and to the person in question.

(6) Where--

- (a) instructions have been given to a person under paragraph (1); or
- (b) instructions given to a person under paragraph (2) have come into force (or have come into force with modifications) in accordance with paragraphs (3) to (5),

he shall be guilty of an offence if without reasonable cause he fails to comply with those instructions (or those instructions with modifications).

Offences relating to the making up and marking of packages and outer containers, and record keeping

13. (1) A person who fails to comply with a duty imposed on him by regulation 4, 5, 6, 7, or 9 shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If a person purports to comply with his duty under regulation 9(1)(b)(ii), or under regulation 9(1)(b)(ii) as applied by regulation 9(3)(a), by making a record which he knows is false in a material particular, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) If a person purports to comply with his duty under regulation 9(3)(b) by reference to evidence which he knows is false in a material particular, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) If a person, with intent to deceive, alters--

- (a) any record kept for the purposes of regulation 5(2), 6(2), 9(1)(b)(ii), or regulation 9(1)(b)(ii) as applied by regulation 9(3)(a), or
- (b) any evidence kept for the purposes of regulation 9(3)(b),

he shall be guilty of an offence.

Offences relating to the sale of packages

14. (1) If a person has in his possession for sale, agrees to sell or sells a package in circumstances in which he knows or has reasonable grounds for believing that the package has a negative error greater than twice the tolerable negative error, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If a person has in his possession for sale, agrees to sell or sells a package in circumstances where he knows, or has reasonable grounds for believing, that the package comes from a batch of packages which has failed the reference test, then he shall be guilty of an offence unless he can show that:

- (a) he had reasonable grounds for believing that corrective action had been taken after the batch had failed the reference test to ensure that the batch subsequently complied with the requirements of regulation 4, or
- (b) the actual quantity of the package exceeded the nominal quantity.

Offences relating to E-marks

15. (1) A person who, in the course of carrying on a business--

(a) marks a package or outer container with the E-mark and is neither the packer nor the importer of the package or outer container, nor a person acting on behalf of the packer or importer,

(b) marks a package or outer container with a mark so closely resembling the E-mark as to be likely to deceive, or

(c) marks a package or outer container with the E-mark otherwise than as permitted by these Regulations,

shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) A person who fails to comply with a duty imposed on him by regulation 11 shall be guilty of an offence.

Disclosure of information

16. (1) Subject to paragraph (3), if a person discloses information which--

(a) relates to a trade secret or secret manufacturing process, and

(b) was obtained by him by virtue of these Regulations when he was an inspector or a person who accompanied an inspector by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 7,

he shall be guilty of an offence unless the disclosure was made in the performance of his duty as an inspector or such other person.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) information disclosing the identity of the packer of a package or the identity of the person who arranged with the packer of a package for the package to be made up shall be treated as a trade secret unless the information has previously been disclosed in a manner which made it available to the public.

(3) It shall not be an offence under paragraph (1) for a person to disclose information in circumstances where--

(a) the person from whom the public authority received the information has consented to its disclosure; or

(b) the information is disclosed more than 50 years after it was received by the public authority.

Corporate offence provisions

17. Where an offence under these Regulations which has been committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he as well as the body corporate shall be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Penalties for offences

18. (1) A person guilty of an offence under regulation 12(6), 13(1), 14(1), 14(2) or 15 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

(2) A person guilty of an offence under regulation 13(2), 13(3), or 13(4) shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to both.

(3) A person guilty of an offence under regulation 16(1) shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, and on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine, or to both.

Defences

19. (1) If a person is charged with an offence under regulation 13(1) for failing to perform the duty imposed on him by regulation 4 in respect of any packages, it shall be a defence to prove that the test in question took place when the packages were not in his possession and by reference to a nominal quantity which was not marked on the packages when they were in his possession.

(2) If an importer of packages is charged with an offence under regulation 13(1) for failing to perform the duty imposed on him by regulation 4 in respect of any packages, it shall be a defence to prove that—

- (a) he performed the duty imposed on him by regulation 9(3)(b) in respect of the packages;
- (b) he did not know or suspect, and could not reasonably have known or suspected, that the packages were not made up in accordance with regulation 4(1);
- (c) he took all reasonable steps to ensure that there was no reduction in the quantity of goods in any of the packages whilst they were in his possession; and
- (d) before the beginning of the period of seven days ending with the date when the hearing of the charge began, he served on the prosecutor copies of all the documents upon which he intended to rely in proving a defence under this regulation, together with a notice which stated that he intended to rely on those documents to establish his defence.

(3) Where a person is charged with an offence under regulation 13(1) for a failure to perform the duty imposed on him by regulation 4 in relation to any packages it shall be a defence for him to prove that:

- (a) the packages were made up in accordance with regulation 4(1); and
- (b) the failure of those packages to pass a test for determining compliance with regulation 4(1) was due entirely to the desiccation of the product contained in the packages after they were made up.

(4) Where a person is charged with an offence under regulation 13(1) or 14(2), it shall be a defence to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.

Trade Descriptions Act

20. An indication of nominal quantity applied to:

- (a) a package under regulation 5(1)(a);
- (b) an outer package under regulation 6(1)(a) and (b); or
- (c) a package or outer container which satisfies the conditions in regulation 3(5),

is deemed not to be a trade description within the meaning of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968.

Transitional provisions

21. (1) The enactments set out in Part 1 of Schedule 1 shall continue in force, the enactments set out in Part 2 of Schedule 1 shall apply without amendment, and these Regulations (but for this regulation) shall have no effect, in relation to:

- (a) a regulated package, as defined by section 68(1) of the 1985 Act,
- (b) an outer container which is treated as a package by virtue of regulation 25 of the 1986 Regulations, and
- (c) goods to which Part V of the 1985 Act and the 1986 Regulations apply by virtue of regulation 27 of the 1986 Regulations,

which has or have been made up or imported prior to the 6th April 2006.

(2) Where, prior to 6th April 2006, the making up or marking of a package or container was subject to the provisions of Part IV of the 1985 Act and would, but for this paragraph, be subject to these Regulations on or after that date, then the packer or importer of such a package or container may, during the period ending with 6th April 2007, comply with the requirements of Part IV in respect of packing and marking such a package instead of the requirements of these Regulations.

(3) Where under these Regulations a packer or importer is not permitted to mark a package or outer container with the E mark because the nominal quantity is greater than 10 kilograms or 10 litres, then a packer or importer may, during the period ending with 6th April 2007, mark the package with the E-mark if he would have been permitted to do so prior to 6th April 2006.

(4) Where a person has given notice to a local weights and measures authority pursuant to section 54(4) of the 1985 Act and regulation 8(1) of the 1986 Regulations, that notice shall take effect, on 6th April 2006, as a notice given to that weights and measures authority under regulation 11 of these Regulations in respect of the place specified in that notice.

(5) Where an inspector has given instructions to a person under section 63(2) of the 1985 Act, then those instructions shall take effect as if they had been given to that person by an inspector on 6th April 2006 under regulation 12(2) of these Regulations.

(6) Subject to paragraph (7), section 64 of the 1985 Act shall continue to apply, and sections 83 to 85 of the 1985 Act shall apply without the amendments set out in Part 2 of Schedule 1, in respect of any information which was obtained prior to 6th April 2006 by a person specified in section 64(1)(b).

(7) Proceedings for an offence under section 64 of the 1985 Act shall not be instituted in England and Wales except by or on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 1(2)

Part 1— Repeals and Revocations

<i>Act repealed</i>	<i>Year/Chapter No</i>	<i>Extent of repeal</i>
Weights and Measures Act 1985	1985 c 72	Sections 47 to 68. Schedule 8.

<i>Regulations revoked</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Extent of revocation</i>
The Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 1986	SI 1986/2049	The whole Regulations
The Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) (Amendment) Regulations 1992	SI 1992/1580	The whole Regulations
The Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods and Quantity Marking and Abbreviations of Units) (Amendment) Regulations 1994	SI 1994/1852	Part II of the Schedule in so far as it amends the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 1986
The Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods)(Amendment) Regulations 1994	SI 1994/1258	The whole Regulations

Part 2 —Minor and Consequential Amendments

Weights and Measures Act 1985 (c 72)

- (1) The 1985 Act is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 22(2)(a) omit the words " (except Part V)".
- (3) For section 25(7), substitute--
 - "(7) For the purposes of this section the quantity of goods in a package, or of a loaf of bread, to which the packaged goods regulations apply shall be deemed to be the nominal quantity (within the meaning of those regulations) of the package or the loaf of bread."
- (4) In section 28(2), for paragraph (a) substitute--
 - "(a) the quantity of goods in a package, or of a loaf of bread, to which the packaged goods regulations apply shall be deemed to be the nominal quantity (within the meaning of those regulations) of the package or the loaf of bread; and".
- (5) In section 40(3) omit the words "(apart from Part V)".
- (6) In section 72--
 - (a) in subsection (1), after the words "this Act", insert "and the packaged goods regulations"; and
 - (b) in subsection (3), after the words "to the purposes of this Act", insert "and the packaged goods regulations".
- (7) In section 74--
 - (a) in subsection (1), after the words "this Act", insert "or the packaged goods regulations"; and
 - (b) in subsection (6), after the words "this Act", insert "or any provision of the packaged goods regulations".
- (8) In sections 75(1)(a) and 75(1A)(b), after the words "this Act", insert "or the packaged goods regulations";
- (9) In section 79--
 - (a) in paragraph (2)(b) omit the words " (except an offence under Part V)"; and
 - (b) in paragraph (3)(a) omit the words " (except an offence under Part V or any instrument made under that Part)".
- (10) In section 80, after the words "this Act", insert "or the packaged goods regulations".
- (11) In section 83--
 - (a) in subsection (1)--
 - (i) for the words "Subject to subsection (2) below, in" substitute "In"; and
 - (ii) omit the words ", other than proceedings for an offence under section 64,";
 - (b) subsection (2) is repealed; and
 - (c) in subsection (3) omit the words ", except in the case of an offence under section 50, 54 or 63 or Schedule 8".
- (12) In section 84--
 - (a) in subsection (4)(a) for the words ", 20(3)(b) or 50 (2), (3) or (4) above" substitute "or 20(3)(b) above"; and
 - (b) in subsection (5) omit the words "64 or".
- (13) In section 85(1) omit the words ", except proceedings for an offence under Part V or any instrument made under that Part,".
- (14) In section 86--
 - (a) in subsection (2)(a) omit the word "62,";

(b) in subsection (2)(b) omit the words "or Part V of this Act"; and

(c) subsection (4) is repealed.

(15) in section 87 omit the words ", except Part V".

(16) In section 94(1)--

(a) in the definition of "container", omit the words "except in Part V,"; and

(b) after the definition of "occupier", insert--

""packaged goods regulations" means the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006;"

(17) In paragraph 21(2) of Schedule 11, omit the words "(except in Part V)".

The Weights and Measures (Quantity Marking and Abbreviations of Units) Regulations 1987, SI 1987/1538

(18) In regulation 2(1)(a), omit the words "or section 48(1) or 68(1A)".

The Capacity Serving Measures (Intoxicating Liquor) Regulations 1988, SI

1988/120 (19) Paragraph (2) of regulation 3 is revoked.

The Weights and Measures (Miscellaneous Foods) Order 1988, SI 1988/2040

(20) In article 5(4), omit the words from "or, in the case of a container" to "indication of quantity by net weight".

The Measuring Equipment (Capacity Measures and Testing Equipment) Regulations 1995, SI

1995/735 (21) Sub-paragraph (b) of regulation 3(1) is revoked.

The Weighing Equipment (Automatic Gravimetric Filling Instruments) Regulations 2000, SI

2000/388 (22) Paragraph (3) of regulation 3 is revoked.

The Weighing Equipment (Non-Automatic Weighing Machines) Regulations 2000, SI 2000/932

(23) Sub-paragraphs (f) and (g) of regulation 3(2) are revoked.

Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (2001 c 16)

(24) The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 is amended as follows.

(25) In section 57(1)(g), for the words "Schedule 8 to the Weights and Measures Act 1985 (c 72)", substitute "Schedule 7 to the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006".

(26) For section 66(4)(g) substitute--

"(g) section 79 of the Weights and Measures Act 1985 (c 72) or Schedule 7 to the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006 (powers of entry and inspection etc);"

(27) In Part 1 of Schedule 1--

(a) in paragraph 36 omit the words ", except Part 5";

(b) omit paragraph 37; and

(c) insert after paragraph 73F--

"Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/659)

73G

The power of seizure conferred by paragraph 4 of Schedule 5 to the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 2006 (seizure of evidence of offences under regulations 12 to 15 of, or Schedule 7 to, those Regulations)."

The reference test

This Schedule lays down the procedures of the reference test for statistical checking of batches of packages in order to meet the requirements of regulation 4(1)(a) and (b).

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEASURING THE ACTUAL CONTENTS OF PACKAGES

- 1.1 The actual contents of packages may be measured directly by means of weighing instruments or volumetric instruments or, in the case of liquids, indirectly, by weighing the packed product and measuring its density.
- 1.2 In all operations for checking quantities of products expressed in units of volume, the value employed for the actual contents shall be measured at or corrected to a temperature of 20°C, whatever the temperature at which packaging or checking is carried out. However this rule shall not apply to deep frozen or frozen products the quantity of which is expressed in units of volume.
- 1.3 Irrespective of the method used, the error made in measuring the actual contents of a package shall not exceed one-fifth of the tolerable negative error for the nominal quantity in the package.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR CHECKING BATCHES OF PACKAGES

- 2.1 The checking of packages shall be carried out by sampling and shall be in two parts:
 - 2.1.1 a check covering the actual contents of each package in the sample,
 - 2.1.2 another check on the average of the actual contents of the packages in the sample.
- 2.2 A batch of packages shall be considered acceptable if the results of both these checks satisfy the acceptance criteria.
- 2.3 For each of these checks, there are three sampling plans:
 - 2.3.1 a single sampling plan for non-destructive testing, i.e. testing which does not involve opening the package,
 - 2.3.2 a double sampling one for non-destructive testing, and
 - 2.3.3 a single sampling plan for destructive testing, i.e., testing which involves opening or destroying the package.
- 2.4 For economic and practical reasons, the third test shall be limited to the absolutely essential minimum; it is less effective than the non-destructive tests. Destructive testing shall therefore be used only when non-destructive testing is impracticable. As a general rule it shall not be applied to batches of fewer than 100 units.

Package batches

- 2.5 The batch shall comprise all the packages of the same nominal quantity, the same type and the same production run, packed in the same place, which are to be inspected. The batch size shall be limited to the amounts laid down below.
- 2.6 When packages are checked at the end of the packing line, the number in each batch shall be equal to the maximum hourly output of the packing line, without any restriction as to batch size.
- 2.7 In other cases the batch size shall be limited to 10,000.
- 2.8 For batches of fewer than 100 packages, the non-destructive test, where carried out, shall be 100%.
- 2.9 Before the tests in paragraphs 3 and 4 are carried out, a sufficient number of packages shall be drawn at random from the batch so that the check requiring the larger sample can be carried out. For the other check, the necessary sample shall be drawn at random from the first sample and marked.
- 2.10 This marking operation shall be completed before the start of measuring operations.

3. CHECKING OF THE ACTUAL CONTENTS OF A PACKAGE

- 3.1 The minimum acceptable contents shall be calculated by subtracting the tolerable negative error for the contents concerned from the nominal quantity of the package.

- 3.2 Packages in the batch whose actual contents are less than the minimum acceptable contents shall be considered defective.

Single sampling plan for non-destructive testing

- 3.3 The number of packages checked shall be equal to the number in the sample, as indicated in the table below.
- 3.4 If the number of defective packages found in the sample is less than or equal to the acceptance criterion indicated in that table, the group shall be considered as acceptable for the purpose of the check.
- 3.5 If the number of defective packages found in the sample is equal to or greater than the rejection criterion there indicated, the group shall be rejected.

Number in group	Number in sample	Number of defective packages	
		Acceptance criterion	Rejection criterion
100 to 500	50	3	4
501 to 3,200	80	5	6
3,201 and above	125	7	8

- 3.6 For a batch of fewer than 100 packages the batch shall be considered acceptable for the purposes of the check if the number of defective packages does not exceed 5%.

Double sampling plan for non-destructive testing

- 3.7 Non-destructive testing shall be carried out in accordance with a double sampling plan as shown in the table below.
- 3.8 The first number of packages checked shall be equal to the number of units in the first sample, as indicated in the plan.
- 3.9 If the number of defective units found in the first sample is less than or equal to the first acceptance criterion, the batch shall be considered acceptable for the purpose of this check.
- 3.10 If the number of defective units found in the first sample is equal to or greater than the first rejection criterion, the batch shall be rejected.
- 3.11 If the number of defective units found in the first sample lies between the first acceptance criterion and the first rejection criterion, a second sample shall be checked, the number of units in which is indicated in the plan. The defective units found in the first and second samples shall be added together and:
- 3.1.1 if the aggregate number of defective units is less than or equal to the second acceptance criterion, the batch shall be considered acceptable for the purpose of this check,
- 3.1.2 if the aggregate number of defective units is greater than or equal to the second rejection criterion, the batch shall be rejected.

Number in batch	Samples		Number of defective units		
	Order	Number	Aggregate number	Acceptance criterion	Rejection criterion
100 to 50	1	30	30	1	3
	2nd	30	60	4	5
501 to 3,200	1st	50	50	2	5
	2nd	50	100	6	7
3,201 and over	1st	80	80	3	7
	2nd	80	160	8	9

Single sampling plan for destructive testing

- 3.12 Destructive testing shall be carried out in accordance with the single sampling plan below and shall be used only for batches of 100 or more.
- 3.13 The number of packages checked shall be equal to 20.
- 3.14 If the number of defective units found in the sample is less than or equal to the acceptance criterion, the batch of packages shall be considered as acceptable.
- 3.15 If the number of defective units found in the sample is equal to or greater than the rejection criterion, the batch of packages shall be rejected.

Number in batch	Number in sample	Number of defective packages	
		Acceptance criterion	Rejection criterion
Whatever the number (\geq 100)	20	1	2

4. CHECKING OF AVERAGE ACTUAL VOLUME OF THE CONTENTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL PACKAGES MAKING UP A BATCH

4.1 A batch of packages shall be considered acceptable for the purpose of this check if the mean value \bar{x} of the actual quantity of the contents of the packages in the sample is greater than the value $Q_n - t_{\alpha} s$

4.2 In this formula:

- Q_n = the nominal quantity of the package,
- n = the number of packages in the sample for this check,
- s = the estimated standard deviation of the actual contents of the batch,
- t_{α} = 0.995 confidence level of a Student distribution with $\delta = n - 1$ degree of freedom

4.3 If x_i is the measured value for the actual contents of the i -th item in a sample containing n items, then:
The mean of the measured values for the sample is obtained by the following calculation:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}$$

4.4 and the estimated value of the standard deviation s is obtained by the following calculation:

— the sum of the squares of the measured values:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$$

— the sum of the squares of the measured values:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

then $s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2}{n}}{n-1}}$

— the corrected sum SC =

— the estimated variance: _____

the estimated value of the standard deviation is:

Criteria for acceptance or rejection of the batch of packages for checking the

mean 4.5 Criteria for non-destructive testing:

Number in batch	Number in sample	Criteria	
		Acceptance	Rejection
100 to 500 (inclusive)	30	$Q_n - 0.503s$	$< Q_n - 0.503s$
> 500	50	$Q_n - 0.379s$	$< Q_n - 0.379s$

4.6 Criteria for destructive testing:

Number in batch	Number in sample	Criteria	
		Acceptance	Rejection
Whatever the number (100)	20	$Q_n - 0.640s$	$< Q_n - 0.640s$

4.7 For batches of fewer than 100 packages, the average of the measured values of the actual contents shall be determined by application of the formula in paragraph 4.3 where n equals the number of packages in the batch. If the average is equal to or greater than the nominal quantity of the packages in the batch, the batch shall be considered as acceptable for the purposes of the check.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 2

Tolerable negative error

In calculating the amount of a tolerable negative error in a case where the error is to be calculated as a percentage of the nominal quantity, the amount shall be rounded up to the nearest one-tenth of a gram or millilitre.

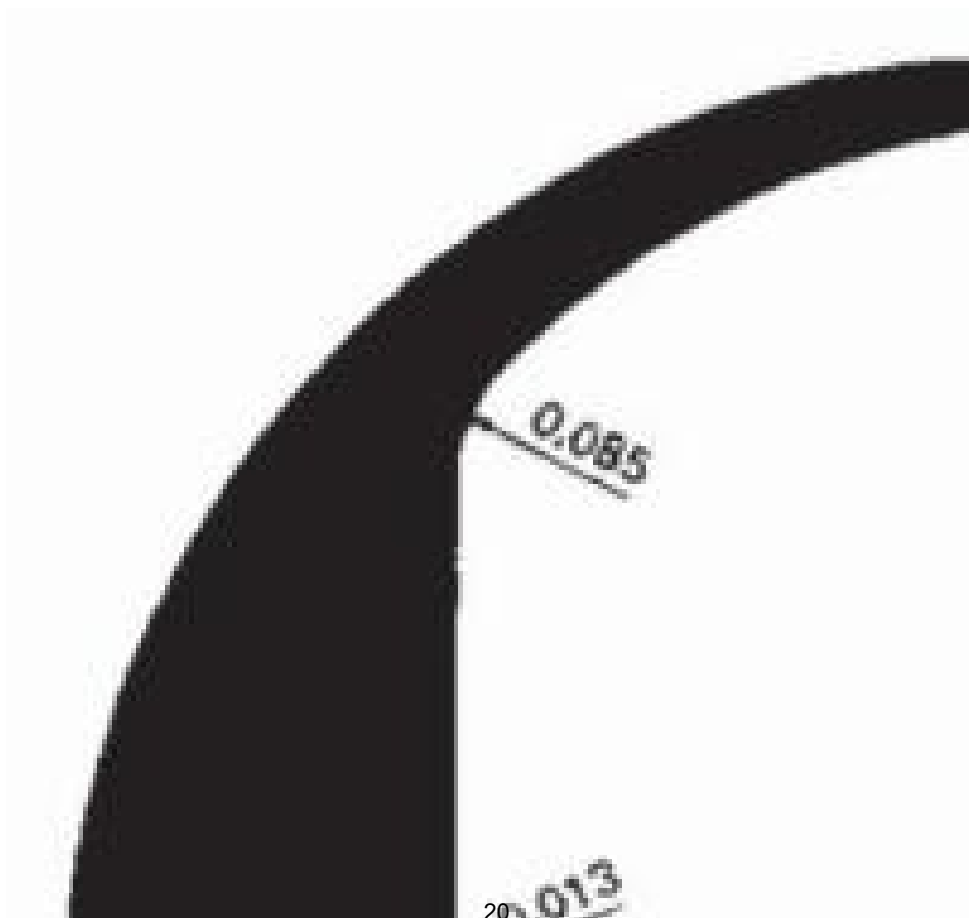
Nominal quantity in grams or millilitres	Total negative error	
	As a percentage of nominal quantity	g or ml
5 to 50	9	
from 50 to 100		4.5
from 100 to 200	4.5	
from 200 to 300		9
from 300 to 500	3	
from 500 to 1,000		15
from 1,000 to 10,000	1.5	
from 10,00 to 15,000		150
above 15,000	1	

SCHEDULE 4

The E-Mark

Regulation 2

The figures marked on the E-mark below show its relative dimensions as a proportion of its width.



SCHEDULE 5

Regulation 3(3)

Application to bread

1. References to the packer shall be treated as referring to the person who made the bread, or in the case of bread supplied to a retailer part-baked, completed the baking.
2. References to the making up or the packing of a package shall be treated as referring to the making up for sale of the loaf of bread.
3. References to the nominal quantity of a package shall be treated as references to the predetermined constant quantity to which the loaf of bread has been made up, including (where applicable) any additional quantity which has been marked on the packaging.
4. In their application to bread which is sold unwrapped--
 - (a) references to a package and references to what a package contains shall be treated as referring to the loaf of bread; and
 - (b) references to the contents of a package shall be treated as referring to the quantity of bread in the loaf.
5. Regulation 3(5) shall not apply.
6. The following provisions of regulations 5 and 6 shall not apply to bread sold in open packs--
 - (a) in regulation 5, paragraphs (1)(a), (2), (3), and (4); and
 - (b) in regulation 6, paragraphs (1)(a) and (b), (2), (3) and (4).
7. Regulations 5 and 6 shall not apply to bread which is sold unwrapped.
8. Regulations 8 and 11 shall not apply.
9. Where the chief inspector of the area in which packages of bread are made up gives a written notice to a packer of bread that regulation 9(1)(b)(ii) (duty to keep records) does not apply to him then the packer shall be exempt from that requirement whilst the notice is in force.
10. In Regulation 19(1), for the words "which was not marked on the packages when they were in his possession" there shall be substituted--

"which was not the nominal quantity to which the bread was made up".
11. Where bread is not made up by means of a continuous process, for paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7 of Schedule 2 there shall be substituted--
 - 2.5 The batch shall comprise all the loaves of bread of the same nominal quantity and type, which have been baked in the same bakery, and which are available to be inspected.
 - 2.6 Where it is reasonably practicable to do so, the batch shall be comprised of bread baked in the same oven at the same time.
 - 2.7 The batch size shall be subject to a maximum of 10,000 in number."

12. In Schedule 7--

- (a) paragraph 5 shall not apply; and
- (b) in paragraph 7, for the words ", 1(f) or 5" there shall be substituted "or 1(f)".

13. Where bread is supplied part-baked to a retailer who completes the baking in the premises from which the bread is sold, then the retailer may by giving written notice to the local authority choose not to have the bread treated as a package under these Regulations.

SCHEDULE 6

[...¹²]

SCHEDULE 7

Regulation 10(5)

Powers of inspectors and local weights and measures authorities

Powers of entry and inspection

1. Any inspector may, within the area for which he is appointed an inspector and on production if so requested of his credentials, at all reasonable times--

- (a) enter any premises (except premises used only as a private dwelling-house) as to which he has reasonable cause to believe that packages are made up on the premises or that imported packages belonging to the importer of them are on the premises or that packages intended for sale are on the premises;
- (b) inspect and test any equipment which he has reasonable cause to believe is used in making up packages in the United Kingdom or in carrying out a check mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (3) of regulation 9;
- (c) inspect, and measure in such manner as he thinks fit, any thing which he has reasonable cause to believe is or contains or is contained in a package and, if he considers it necessary to do so for the purpose of inspecting the thing or anything in it, break it open;
- (d) inspect and take copies of, or of any thing purporting to be--
 - (i) a record, document, or certificate of a kind mentioned in regulations 5(2), 9(1) or 9(3)(a); or
 - (ii) evidence of a kind mentioned in regulations 9(3)(b) or 9(4);
- (e) require any person on premises which the inspector is authorised to enter by virtue of paragraph (a) to provide such assistance as the inspector reasonably considers necessary to enable the inspector to exercise effectively any power conferred on him by paragraphs (a) to (d);
- (f) require any person to give to the inspector such information as the person possesses about the name and address of the packer and of any importer of a package which the inspector finds on premises he has entered by virtue of this paragraph or paragraph 2.

2. If a justice of the peace, on sworn information in writing--

- (a) is satisfied there is reasonable ground to believe that--
 - (i) a package or thing containing a package, or
 - (ii) any such equipment, record, document or certificate as is mentioned in paragraph 1,

is on any premises or that an offence under regulations 12 to 15 is being or is about to be committed on any premises, and

¹²Omitted by SI 2014/2975, Reg 38.

(b) is also satisfied either-

- (i) that admission to the premises has been refused or that a refusal is apprehended and that notice of the intention to apply for a warrant has been given to the occupier, or
- (ii) that an application for admission or the giving of such a notice would defeat the object of the entry or that the premises are unoccupied or that the occupier is temporarily absent and it might defeat the object of the entry to await his return,

the justice may by warrant under his hand, which shall continue in force for a period of one month, authorise an inspector to enter the premises if need be by force.

In the application of this paragraph to Scotland, "justice of the peace" includes a sheriff.

3. — (1) An inspector entering any premises by virtue of paragraph 1 or 2 may take with him such other persons and equipment as he considers necessary.

(2) It shall be the duty of an inspector who leaves premises which he has entered by virtue of paragraph 2 and which are unoccupied or from which the occupier is temporarily absent to leave the premises as effectively secured against trespassers as he found them.

Power of seizure

4. Where an inspector has reasonable cause to believe that an offence under regulations 12 to 15 or this Schedule has been committed and that any equipment, record, document, package or thing containing or contained in a package may be required as evidence in proceedings for the offence he may seize it and detain it for as long as it is so required.

Power to require information

5. (1) An inspector may serve, on any person carrying on business as a packer or importer of packages in the area for which the inspector is appointed an inspector, a notice requiring that person-

- (a) to furnish the inspector from time to time with particulars of the kind specified in the notice of any marks which are applied from time to time to packages made up in that area by that person or to packages imported by him, for the purpose of enabling the place where the packages were made up to be ascertained, and
- (b) if the person has furnished particulars of a mark in pursuance of the notice and the mark ceases to be applied to such packages for that purpose, to give notice of the cesser to the inspector.

(2) A notice given by an inspector under this paragraph shall not require a person to furnish information which he does not possess.

Purchase of goods

6. (1) A local weights and measures authority may purchase goods, and authorise any of its officers to purchase goods on behalf of the authority, for the purpose of ascertaining whether an offence under regulations 12 to 15 has been committed.

(2) If an inspector breaks open a package in pursuance of paragraph 1(c) otherwise than on premises occupied by the packer or importer of the package, and the package is not such that the packer or importer is in breach of regulation 4(1)(c), it shall be the duty of the inspector, if the owner of the package requests him to do so, to buy the package on behalf of the local weights and measures authority for the area in which he broke it open.

Failure to provide assistance or information

7. Any person who without reasonable cause fails to comply with a requirement made of him in pursuance of paragraph 1(e), 1(f) or 5 shall be guilty of an offence.

EXPLANATORY NOTE¹³

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

Introduction

These Regulations provide for the control of packages containing products packed in constant nominal quantities. They provide for the average system to apply to the quantity contained in each batch of packages which is made up. The Regulations implement European Union Directives on prepackaged goods and on the units of measurement to be applied to such packages.

Previous legislation

These Regulations repeal the previous legislation on packaged goods contained in Part V of the Weights and Measures Act 1985 and the regulations made thereunder: the Weights and Measures (Packaged Goods) Regulations 1986 (SI 1986/2049) as amended by SI 1992/1580 and SI 1994/1258 (regulation 1(2) and Schedules 1 and 2).

EU Directives implemented

These Regulations re-implement the following Directives in whole or part:

- (a) Council Directives: 75/106/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids (as amended by Commission Directive 78/891/EEC (OJ No L311, 4.11.1978, p 21), and Council Directives 79/1005/EEC (OJ No L308, 4.12.1979, p 25), 85/10/EEC (OJ No L4, 5.1.1985, p 20), 88/316/EEC (OJ No L143, 10.6.1988, p 26) and 89/676/EEC (OJ No L398, 30.12.1989, p 18);
- (b) Council Directive 76/211/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products (OJ No L46, 21.2.1976, p 1) as amended by Commission Directive 78/891/EEC (OJ No L311, 4.11.1978 p 21); and
- (c) Council Directive 80/181/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement (OJ L39, 15.2.1980, p 40) as amended by Directives 85/1/EEC (OJ L2, 3.1/1986, p 11), 89/617/EEC (OJ L357, 7.12.1989, p 28) and 1999/103/EC (OJ L34, 9.2.200, p 17) as it applies to packaged goods.

Provisions of the Regulations

These Regulations apply to packages which are packed in constant nominal quantities by weight or volume which are predetermined by the packer and are not less than 5 grams or 5 millilitres and not more than 25 kilograms or 25 litres (regulation 3). They also apply to "outer containers" containing at least one package and to bread which is unwrapped. Regulation 3 also sets out exceptions to the application of the regulations.

Regulation 4 sets out the three rules with which packers must comply in making up packages. Compliance with the rules is to be determined by the reference test set out in Schedule 2. Regulations 5 and 6 set out the information which must be marked on packages and outer containers and the circumstances in which the E-mark (the form of which is shown in Schedule 4) may be marked on a package or outer container. Regulation 7 provides that a person other than a packer or importer who marks an indication of nominal quantity on a package will become liable under the Regulations as though he were a packer or importer. Regulation 8 sets out specific requirements as to the marking of weight or volume on packages.

Regulation 9 imposes duties on packers and importers as to the measurement of the contents of packages, the checking of the contents and keeping of records. Regulations 10 to 12 provide for the enforcement of the Regulations by local weights and measures authorities and matters connected therewith. Additional powers of inspectors and local weights and measures authorities are set out in Schedule 7. Regulation 13 lays down penalties in respect of the making up and marking of packages and outer containers and keeping records of proposed markings. Regulation 14 lays down penalties in respect of the knowing sale of packages containing short measure or of packages which come from a batch that has failed the reference test. Regulation 15 prohibits the marking of the E-mark on packages except as permitted by the Regulations. Regulation 16 makes the

¹³Explanatory Note as provided in the original 2006 Regulations. Explanation may contain details which have been revoked, omitted and/or substituted post-2006.

unauthorised disclosure of information concerning trade secrets and secret manufacturing processes an offence. Regulations 17 to 20 contain provisions supplementary to the offence provisions.

Regulation 21 contains transitional provisions in respect of the application of the pre-existing law to packages made up or actions taken before the Regulations come into force and provides a one year transitional period in respect of the application of the E-mark under the pre-existing law.

Regulatory impact assessment and transposition note

A full regulatory impact assessment of the effect that these Regulations would have on the costs to business, together with a Transposition Note, is available from the Consumer and Competition Policy Directorate, Department of Trade and Industry, 4th Floor, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Copies of the regulatory impact assessment have also been placed in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament.