



NCWM - NEWS

National Conference on Weights and Measures

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Chairman's Column

Randy Jennings — Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Dear NCWM Members,

I am writing to you immediately following the 2010 Interim Meeting held here in Nashville, Tennessee. We were all excited to have such a healthy turnout —148 people registered for this meeting. In addition to the Interim, the Board of Directors met all day on Saturday January 23rd and until noon on Sunday the 24th. All this activity resulted in a very dynamic week for the NCWM.

I'll talk later about a few of the issues that the Board of Directors wrestled with during the week, but first I want to take the opportunity to recognize some members that have recently demonstrated their willingness to step up to the plate and serve as volunteers for our organization. The Nominating Committee selected an excellent slate of candidates to fill officer positions set to become vacant at the close of our Annual Meeting in July. Congratulations to the following on their nominations:

Kurt Floren – Chairman-Elect

Los Angeles County Agriculture Commissioner / Weights and Measures

Ron Hayes – Board of Directors - Central Region Representative

Missouri Department of Agriculture

Richard Cote – Treasurer

New Hampshire Division of Weights and Measures

Gordon Johnson – Board of Directors Associate Membership Representative

Gilbarco, Inc.

Also, in response to some unexpected events I have made a couple of appointments to committees. Last fall we were notified that Kristin Macey, CA Department of Food and Agriculture, had accepted a new position within her agency that would require her resignation from the S&T Committee. Kristin is now the County/State Liaison for the department. This is a

great opportunity for Kristin and we wish her success. In order to maintain continuity on the S&T, it was decided that recruiting a former S&T member would be prudent. This would ensure that the replacement would be prepared to assume a leadership role very quickly if needed. To that end, **Mr. Carol Fulmer, SC Department of Agriculture, rose to the occasion and agreed to return to the S&T Committee after a brief rest.** Thank you Carol, we are all grateful for your continued support. Additionally, long time NCWM member and Treasurer Mr. Will Wotthlie, Director of the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Weights and Measures Division, made the decision to retire this past December. This led to his resignation as NCWM Treasurer effective December 31, 2009. Will has been a great friend to us over the years, both personally and professionally. To say that he will be missed is a gross understatement! We wish Will all the best in his retirement as he spends more time on the farm. **Stepping up to fill the position of Treasurer is Mr. Richard Cote, New Hampshire Division of Weights and Measures.** Richard hit the ground running at both the Board of Directors meeting and during the Interim Meeting sessions. Richard immediately demonstrated his keen eye to the financials and will definitely serve the organization well during his time as Treasurer.

To refocus on some notable administrative items discussed at the Interim meeting, a couple of the more complex issues that the Board of Directors dealt with were the progression of the Conformity Assessment Program and the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the NCWM.

The Conformity Assessment Program has progressed at a reasonable pace and as most are aware, the Verified Conformity Assessment Program (VCAP) component of the program is now underway for load

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"A Little History"

Questions have surfaced recently pertaining to the reasons behind the birth of NTEP, the reasons for the devices evaluated by NTEP and the benefits of NTEP. This article and the next will give some background towards answering those questions among others.

In 1967 there were 14 states, 2 cities and 1 county weights and measures jurisdiction in the United States that had type evaluation regulations. Device manufacturers considered it an unnecessary and costly process to apply for a type approval in 17 different jurisdictions. So, through the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM), a group of manufacturers requested that the National Bureau of Standards (NBS, and what we know as NIST today) establish a voluntary program called Prototype Examination Program. The NBS agreed to implement such a program which consisted of an evaluation of a device by the staff of NBS and sometimes with personnel from state programs to determine its compliance with Handbook 44. If found to comply, a Report of Test was issued to a device indicating compliance with the applicable requirements of Handbook 44. The program served its purpose for a number of years as most states used the NBS Report of Test as the basis for issuing a type approval certificate for their state.

Then, in the early 1980's it became obvious that an official national or federal program was necessary. In 1984, a model National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) Regulation was adopted by NCWM. NBS was charged with the responsibility of administering, or managing the day to day operations

of NTEP. The first NTEP Certificate of Conformance (CC) was issued in 1985.

In the mid 1980's other significant changes contributed to the complexities of NTEP. NCWM adopted what was called the "New Scales Code" for Handbook 44. The new code utilized the international class structure for weighing devices and introduced step tolerances. Also in the new code were influence factor requirements for weighing devices, main elements and load cells tested separately. In addition, the U.S. government was entering into free trade agreements and signing treaties, which required NCWM to look at international standards, compared to Handbook 44, and harmonize where practical to reduce technical trade barriers. High emphasis was placed on the use of

NTEP Milestones:

- 1984 - NCWM Adopts Model NTEP Regulation
- 1985 - NBS Authorizes State NTEP Labs to Conduct Evaluations
- 1985 - First NTEP Certificate Is Issued
- 1986 - NCWM Adopts New Scales Code for NIST Handbook 44
- 1993 - Implementation of the MRA with Canada
- 2000 - NCWM, Inc. Takes Over Administration of NTEP

international recommendations for weighing instruments (OIML R76) and load cells (OIML R60) when practical. Also noteworthy, in 1988 the U.S. and Canada entered into a free trade agreement, which resulted in some harmonization of legal metrology requirements for both countries.

NTEP does not evaluate all weighing and measuring devices subject to enforcement. Some devices can be controlled through field enforcement (e.g. timing devices). The scope of NTEP evaluation has typically been limited to devices for which formal type evaluation criteria and checklists

exist. NTEP, through the technical committee process, has developed checklist criteria for the high profile devices and systems (e.g. computing scales, motor fuel dispensers, point-of-sale systems) and continues to develop new checklists when warranted (e.g. Hydrocarbon Gas-Vapor Measuring Devices). When the "New Scales Code" was adopted, emphasis was on the checklist criteria for influence factor testing applicable to complete scales tested in an NTEP laboratory and separate main elements to be issued a Certificate of Conformance (e.g. scale indicating elements, weighing elements and load cells).

Within ten years thirty-seven states had adopted the NTEP model regulation and there was no need for a manufacturer to submit an instrument to any individual state. Today that number has grown to forty-six states.

The first of the state brick and mortar laboratories were authorized in 1985 to conduct laboratory tests on weighing devices. The four state brick and mortar labs (California, Maryland, New York and Ohio) do most of the laboratory testing for NTEP. NIST has type evaluation facilities for load cells and USDA/GIPSA evaluates grain analyzers, some grain bulk-weighing systems and railway scales. Our colleagues at Measurement Canada also perform testing to NTEP checklists, which is recognized by NTEP under the "US/Canada Mutual Recognition Agreement on Type Evaluation." There are also NTEP Field Laboratories that perform NTEP evaluations at field test sites. Many states have participated as field labs throughout the years, but at this time Kansas is the only field lab for weighing devices. California, Maryland and North Carolina conduct NTEP evaluations for measuring devices.

The next article will address the benefits of NTEP, from the manufacturer to the consumer. If you would like to discuss the content of this article contact me at jim.truex@ncwm.net

— Jim Truex, NTEP Administrator



He is widely known and respected for stating his opinion on the floor and steering the conference progressively.

Will Wotthlie

Chief of Maryland Weights and Measures Retires

Richard W. (Will) Wotthlie, Chief of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures retired on December 31, 2009. He has been a prominent figure in the National Conference of Weights and Measures (NCWM), the Southern Weights and Measures Association, and the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP). He most recently served as NCWM Treasurer on the Board of Directors. He is widely known and respected for stating his opinion on the floor and steering the conference progressively. Wotthlie has also provided numerous training classes for regulatory officials across the United States on liquid measuring devices and LPG meters for the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Will served as the Chief of the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Weights and Measures Division for over five

years. In this role, he was responsible for ensuring fairness in the marketplace through the inspection and regulation of all weighing and measuring devices used in commerce in Maryland. He also supervised laboratory services, including Maryland's NTEP laboratory, one of only three in the nation authorized to evaluate liquid measuring devices and one of only four in the nation authorized to evaluate weighing devices used commercially in the United States.

Wotthlie began working for the Maryland Department of Agriculture in 1979 as a field inspector for Frederick County, responsible for all weights and measures activities in that region. He also inspected all liquid propane gas and loading rack meters located west of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. In 1989, he was promoted to field supervisor for the western and central

parts of the state. In 1994, Wotthlie became Program Manager for all activities pertaining to small and large scales in Maryland and also performed NTEP evaluations for liquid measuring devices. In 2003, Wotthlie added the duties as program manager for liquid measuring devices. After Louis Straub retired, Wotthlie served as acting chief of the division. In 2004, Agriculture Secretary Lewis R. Riley appointed him as Chief of Weights and Measures.

Wotthlie resides in Mount Airy, Maryland with his wife of 39 years. They have two children, and one granddaughter. They raise Angus beef cattle on their farm. He is an active member of the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company serving for 42 years as a firefighter and president for three years.

— Kenneth Ramsburg
NCWM Member



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Device Inspection

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Committee News

2010 Interim Meeting

Specifications and Tolerances Committee

The 2010 Specifications and Tolerances Interim Agenda consisted of 23 items, 17 carried over from the prior year and 6 new items.

GENERAL COD:

Item 310-1: Provisions for Sealing Electronic Components was again revised by the committee and remains informational. **Items 310-2 and 310-3,** Definitions for Software Based Systems and Marking Requirements, was left informational pending further study and recommendation by the Software Sector at their March 2010 meeting. A new **Item, 310-4,** Pertaining to Applicability of Non-retroactive Requirements to Remanufactured Equipment, will move forward as a Voting item at the Annual Meeting.

SCALES:

Carryover **Items 320-1A and B, and 324-2A, B, and C,** Pertaining to Tare in Both the Scales and Automatic Weighing Systems Codes, were withdrawn, lacking support from the regional associations and failure of companion voting items at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

The committee agreed with comments from various groups that automatic zero-setting mechanisms facilitate fraud and have no place in the U. S. marketplace.

The committee revised carryover **Items 320-2 and 324-1** to Retroactively Prohibit this Feature for Scales and Automatic Weighing Systems, and moves these items forward as voting items. Carryover **Item 322-1,** which prohibits this feature in the Automatic Bulk Weighing Systems, also is a voting item.

New **Item 320-4** is Voting and extends the vehicle scale approach requirements to all installations, including those of less than six months duration, with only the 10-foot durable surface exception applicable to temporary installations.

New **Item 320-3** aligns the time dependence requirements for Class II, III, IIL, and IIL devices to corresponding load cell requirements adopted at the July 2009 Annual Meeting. This is a voting item.

MEASURING DEVICES

Carryover **Item 330-1,** which establishes specifications, tolerances and user requirements for liquid measuring devices equipped with automatic temperature compensation, maintained little support from the conference and was withdrawn by the committee.

Pertaining to carryover **Item 330-2,** Price Posting and Computing Capability, the

Weights and Measures Division (WMD) of NIST has restored personnel resources to assist the Committee in developing retail motor fuel device specifications and user requirements to address the myriad of current and potential marketing practices in retail fuel sales. The WMD will help remobilize the workgroup established in 2008 to study this issue. The Committee solicits nominations from the voting membership for a volunteer to lead this workgroup. The Committee anticipates that a proposal will be presented for consideration at the 2011 Interim meeting, and expects an update on the group's progress and work plan at the July 2010 meeting. This item is moved to developing.

Carryover **Item 331-1,** which reduces the tolerance when comparing gross and net errors for vehicle tank meters equipped with automatic temperature compensation, is voting. Carryover **Item 331-2** to require complete and consistent use of ATC for vehicle tank meters at any business location is withdrawn.

Carryover **Item 336-1,** which increases the test draft size for several sizes of utility water meters is withdrawn in favor of new **Item 336-2,** which increases the test draft size only for larger utility meters.

Item 336-2 is voting. New **Item 336-3** increases the repeatability tolerance for utility water meters for the intermediate and minimum flow rates. This item is also voting.

The Committee moves **Item 360-1,**

Tentative Code for Hydrogen Gas Measuring Devices, to voting.

The Committee appreciates all testimony and written comments received from the membership, and expresses sincere thanks to the WMD

technical advisors for the critical services they provide.

— Brett Saum, Committee Chair
San Luis Obispo County
Weights and Measures

Laws and Regulations Committee

The 2010 Laws and Regulations Committee (L&R) Interim Agenda consisted of 16 items for review and comments during the Open Hearings. Sunday consisted of our agenda items review and adjournment for the Moisture Loss Work Group (MLWG) meeting later that afternoon. The L&R Committee kicked off Monday's Open Hearings and quite a few comments were received on our agenda items.

Our committee work sessions on Tuesday lasted into that evening. The following are the committee deliberation results on the agenda items. There will be 9 "Voting" items, 2 "Developing" items, 4 "Informational" items and 2 "Withdrawn" items as described below:

Item 232-3: Method of Sale for Fireplace and Stove Wood, Flavoring Chips, and Packaged Natural Wood. This item will move forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 260-1: Guidance on Allowing for Moisture Loss and Other Revisions. Several revisions were made and changes will be sent out electronically from NCWM and the NIST Weights and Measures State Director List Server. **Item 31 and 32** were not accepted and tabled for future items for the MLWG. This item is "How is moisture loss handled for products not listed in NIST Handbook 133." This item moves forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-1: Section 2.2.1. Handbook 130, Uniform Engine Fuels Regulation – Premium Diesel Lubricity. The FALS subcommittee is waiting for a test method and results from the CRC Study to determine correct number for setting specifications. The June ASTM balloting failed and will need to go out for another vote. This item will go forward as "Informational."

Item 270-2: Fuels and Lubricants Subcommittee (FALS). There is an

ongoing process as things are developing and the FALS will be updating the L&R Committee. This item will move forward as a "Developing" item.

Item 270-3: Pelletized Ice Cream. This item will move forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-4: Method of Sale and Engine Fuel Quality Requirements for Hydrogen. This item was split into a Method of Sale for Hydrogen and Hydrogen Fuel Specifications. The Method of Sale for Hydrogen will move forward as a "Voting" item and the Hydrogen Fuel Specifications will move as an "Informational" item.

Item 270-5: Seed Count for Agricultural Seeds. This item will move forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-6: Handbook 130, Method of Sale Regulation Section 2.13.4. "Declaration of Weight." This item moves forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-7: Handbook 133, Chapter 4.7. Polyethylene Sheeting-Test Procedure Footnote Step 3. This item moves forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-8: Handbook 133, Chapter 4.7. Polyethylene Sheeting Test Procedure – T-shirt/cut-out bags. This item is being returned to the Western for additional development and information and is being "Withdrawn."

Item 270-9: HB 130 - Uniform Regulation for Method of Sale of Commodities - Packaged Printer Ink and Toner Cartridges. This item received considerable comments and deliberations but the committee feels that additional information is needed pertaining to the ISO page standards, FTC Regulations, test procedures and also what ink refillers practices are. This

item moves forward as an "Informational" item.

Item 270-10: HB 130 Engine Fuels & Automotive Lubricants Regs Section 3.15 Biodiesel and Biodiesel Blends. FALS will be working on developing additional information for this item. This item moves forward as "Informational."

Item 270-11: HB 133, Method of Measures of Volume of Bagged Mulch. This item was "Withdrawn."

Item 270-12: Handbook 130, Method of Sale, Section 2.23. Animal Bedding. Change language to read (8% moisture or less) (removing words "less than") remove the words "can still" at the end of the sentence. Replace with the word "may." This item moves forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-13: Handbook 133, Moisture Allowance for Pasta Products. This item moves forward as a "Voting" item.

Item 270-14: Handbook 130, Packaging and Labeling Requirements, Section 6, Declaration of Quantity: Consumer Products. This item will go back through the regions to get comments. Also requesting Gillette to provide a set of approved pictographs. This item moves forward as a "Developing" item.

Special Thanks to the L&R Committee Members for their diligent work and putting in long meeting hours working on these items and special gratitude for the support from our NIST Advisor(s). Kudos also extended to the NCWM general membership for their invaluable comments and technical advice.

— Joe Gomez, Committee Chair
New Mexico Department of Agriculture

Professional Development Committee National Certification of Weights and Measures Professionals

Leading up to the Interim Meeting the Committee was caught up in about one hundred questions. Those questions were to populate the banks of the three sections of our beta exam for Retail Motor Fuel Device certification. We learned that writing a good exam is challenging, particularly since we want our exam to challenge the weights and measures professional. Our goal is to have questions that are clear, each directed at a single point, all technically correct, and, most important, at the correct level of competence. We are looking forward to feedback from those taking the beta exam to help us judge if we succeeded.

At the Interim Meeting and the days immediately following, the Committee turned over to the NCWM staff a number of items that are to support the beta exam. These included three curriculum segments, the certification discipline, and three banks of test questions. Each has an important role to play in the overall process. The curriculum segments and the certification discipline will be posted shortly on the NCWM website. These provide the standards that are being used in the beta exam. The exam questions are being loaded to the on-line test system as this is being written.

The three curriculum segments identified in the RMFD discipline outline the subject material and the level of competence required to meet minimum standards. The Committee strongly encourages you to read through the curriculum to see what you will be tested on. As you read the standards you will notice that specific verbs are used to designate levels of competence ranging from knowledge to understanding to application. Verbs like "name" or "define" are used at the knowledge level where the candidate need only know about the material. Verbs like "classify" or "explain" are used at the understanding level and demand more. The candidate must now be able to put the concepts in their own words or see distinctions. Verbs like "apply" or "interpret" are used at the application level, and this is the highest level expected in basic certification. The candidate must be able to

work backwards at this level, taking observations or data, and applying code requirements to them. Similar to the real world, you will not be directed to the specific code. Instead, you must be able to make the connection between the observed facts and the correct code requirement.

The Certification Discipline describes the form and structure of the exam component. It describes the weighting of the three sections corresponding to three curriculum segments. The RMFD exam is 50 questions (with 2 hour time limit) and is weighted as follows:

- 15 questions on basic device control, i.e. Handbook 44 and NTEP
- 15 questions on basic liquid measuring, i.e. operation of devices and basic test methods
- 20 questions on specifics of RMFD's, i.e. inspections, tests, and user requirements

Please be on the lookout as notice of the posting of the new website documents and availability of the exam will be released shortly. We plan a broadcast email to the State Directors and to the NCWM membership. The beta exam will be free and it is open to service persons as well as weights and measures officials. It will be available only for about 30 days and we expect it to be limited to the first 100 takers. So don't wait till the last minute to get on-line.

Most of the test questions will be multiple-choice, where you pick the best answer of the four choices. A few questions will be simple fill in the blank, where you must supply a numerical answer. A good number of questions will be compliance driven where the correct answer will be either the word yes (meaning the situation described complies) or a Handbook citation of the section that is violated. Since the computer is grading the exam, the values for the fill in the blank or the yes/citation questions must be typed exactly correct. The computer has no tolerance. Even an added space will result in the question being marked incorrect. Please read the instructions carefully and proof-read your answers

for these types of questions.

Please understand that for the beta exam we are testing the on-line testing system and no certificates will be issued. For the beta exam, we will not be asking for your name, but will ask for your title and your years of experience. We will also ask for your comments on the exam and welcome your feedback. We are particularly interested in the appropriateness of the weighting of the exam, the level of the test questions, the time limit, and the user interface of the on-line test. Your feedback is critical to help us make a certification exam that is meaningful and challenging. We encourage you to also communicate with your regional PDC Committee.

We will try to make the necessary improvements to the RMFD exam based on that feedback and move to a formal certification exam for RMFD's with certification as quickly as possible. That exam will have fees associated with it that will fund the cost of the on-line testing service. The NCWM Board will be working out those details as we move forward. The process is also moving forward for the other three disciplines requested by the NCWM Board. These include, in order of our current priorities, small capacity class III scales, vehicle tank meters, and basic package checking. We are now gathering questions for these other exams and will move forward with new exams as we look to build our certification program. In this area we are also pleased that NIST WMD is interested in cooperating on test question development as part of their work to prepare and deliver training courses.

I want to thank my Committee members for their contributions and add in Dick Suiter, who assisted the Committee with review of our RMFD test question banks. We hope our next installment will include analysis of the beta exam results. Keep an eye out in future newsletters.

— Ross Andersen, Committee Chair
New York Department
of Agriculture and Markets

VCAP Audits Begin in North America and Around the Globe

As many will already know, NCWM is requiring NTEP Certified organizations to achieve a Verified Conformity Assessment Program (VCAP) certification in order to better ensure equity in the marketplace. The basic goal is to provide objective evidence that NTEP-certified devices continue to perform to the requirements as initially qualified. This program began with Load Cell manufacturers in mid 2009 and will continue to a revised deadline of June 2010. Other device types will follow suit later.

Several Load Cell manufacturers have already begun this process including HBM, Inc. who contracted with NQA, USA for one of the very first VCAP certifications. NQA, USA's Conformity Assessment Director, Timothy Woodcome states that NQA also has VCAP audits occurring in North America, Europe and Asia.

The VCAP audit, similar to ISO 9001 audits in some respects, puts much more of a focus on the device testing protocols and management of metrologically significant components (MSC's) – ensuring that changes to MSC's do not adversely affect the device integrity.

While ISO 9001 is a solid baseline on which to build a VCAP program, it is not a pre-requisite per se. In fact non-ISO organizations could use VCAP as a stepping stone to an ISO 9001 certification.

In either case, VCAP seems to be making progress on its goal of bringing a renewed focus on quality and integrity to the NTEP certification process and the Weights and Measures industry in general.

Timothy Woodcome is NQA's Director of Conformity Assessment and VCAP Program Manager. He may be reached at twoodcome@nqa-usa.com.

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National Quality Assurance (NQA) is a leading international ISO Registrar, and the source for VCAP Certification and other process and compliance services.

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Contact us today to learn how NQA can help your organization meet VCAP requirements BEFORE the June 2010 deadline.

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How an Idea Becomes a National Standard

It is striking how many people are drawn into the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM) standards development process for the first time each year. They understandably come in with a lot of questions on the process. I wonder if I can explain it in 500 words or less, "How an idea becomes a national standard."

The idea can come from anyone; inspectors, consumers, manufacturers, administrators, retailers... you. You have identified the problem. Next, develop a solution in the form of an amendment to the standards and submit a proposal using Form 15. Form 15 is freely available on the NCWM website for download. On Form 15, indicate the purpose, the proposal, justification and designate at least one regional association where the item is to be introduced. You then submit the Form to NCWM. We, in turn, forward the proposal to the indicated regions for consideration at their next fall meeting. It is not mandatory that the submitter be in attendance at the regional meeting, but it is certainly beneficial to champion the item.

The regional associations hold open hearings followed by deliberation of the committees to determine recommendations for the items on their agendas. If your new proposal has merit, the regional association will forward the

item to the NCWM committee agenda. Can you believe it? Your idea has just landed on a national platform for consideration. But you're not done yet.

All new proposals received from regional associations along with the carryover items from the previous year will appear in Publication 15. This is the agenda for the NCWM Interim meeting in January. At the Interim Meeting, NCWM Standing Committees hold open hearings again, followed by deliberation in their work sessions. At the conclusion of the Interim Meeting, the committees have designated the status that each agenda item will have on the NCWM Annual Meeting agenda (Publication 16) in July. The options are Voting, Informational, Developing, and Withdrawn.

Informational means the committee believes the item has merit, but they want to continue gathering input to develop it further. Developing means the item is not developed enough for Committee consideration. The item will remain on the agenda in bulletin-board fashion, but the source of the item or another designated party will be charged with developing it, not the Committee. Voting and Withdrawn categories speak for themselves.

So here we are at the NCWM Annual

Meeting in July, about nine months into the process. Open hearings are held once again. The Committees deliberate, and have the option of adding amendments to the items. Addendum sheets are printed and the Conference goes into a voting session. Items that are adopted here will become the new national standards beginning January 1 of the following year. These amendments to the standards are reflected in the respective NIST Handbooks, 44, 130, and 133. And there it is! Your idea has become a national standard.

New items commonly require a lengthier process. It is very common for items to carry informational status for a year or two as the stakeholders work with the committee to iron out any issues. Of course, some items are withdrawn or voted down, but never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game. Babe Ruth said that. He holds the record for career strikeouts.

Okay, I didn't quite get that done in 500 words or less, but I hope it is a start at helping newer participants to understand the process. Soon we hope to have a guide in place on our website to help new members and stakeholders navigate our process. Meanwhile, please call me; I'll help you through it.

— Don Onwiler, Executive Director



In Memory of Ron David Murdock

Ron David Murdock, 57, of Olin, North Carolina passed away on Saturday, December 19, 2009.

Ron began his career in 1975 with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture as a fuel dispenser inspector. Shortly after that he was promoted to a heavy scale inspector and later to Supervisor for central North Carolina. In 1988 he became Program Manager for Weights and Measures (NCWM), serving as chairman of the Specifications and Tolerances Committee in 1982-83 and later as NCWM Chairman in 2002. He was also a National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) evaluator for much of this time. Ron retired in August of 2002.

Ron's friends and colleagues in the weights and measures community will always remember him for his integrity, common sense and leadership. Our sympathy is extended to Ron's family as you celebrate his life and mourn your loss.

— Stephen Benjamin, North Carolina



Motorized Weight Mover Safety

OSHA 3071 -2002 (Revised)

"A job hazard analysis is a technique that focuses on job tasks as a way to identify hazards before they occur. It focuses on the relationship between the worker, the task, the tools, and the work environment. Ideally, after you identify uncontrolled hazards, you will take steps to eliminate or reduce them to an acceptable risk level."

Much of the equipment used by Weights and Measures officials does not have specific safety requirements defined by OSHA. This requires administrators to conduct job hazard analysis. By reviewing OSHA documents and various equipment requirements, an administrator should be able to discern the relevant safety obligations that you should consider when building a safety training program around a specific piece of equipment.

Program equipment such as motorized weight movers would best be modeled after the OSHA requirements for forklift drivers. Motorized weight movers have many of the attributes of a forklift though a much lower center of gravity. To certify as a forklift driver employees are mandated to pass a written and skills test. Your safety procedures should address all associated equipment that your staff will use and job situations that they are likely to encounter. Using this as a model, an administrator can build on these components.

The following job hazard analysis is for a motorized weight mover designed for mounted movement control.

- Hard hat is required to be worn while using the weight mover near the crane or in livestock scales.

Starting:

- Make Sure That the Brakes Are Set (unless equipped with auto locking brakes)
- Move Switch to the On Position
- Chock Throttle
- Depress Start Button

Skill Requirement: Start Weight Mover

Parking:

- If Equipped with Hydraulic Brakes, Flip Brake Lever Up Or Depress Brake Pedal
- If Equipped with Auto Locking Brakes, Move/Release Lever into Neutral Position

Skill Requirement: Park Weight Mover

Movement:

- Backing Up is for Maneuvering Only
- Skill Requirement:** Back Through an 'Ess' Turn and Circle
- General Movement Should be Forward as the Situation Allows
- Skill Requirement:** Drive Weight Mover Forward Through an 'Ess' Turn and Circle
- Changing Directions

Skill Requirement: At a Complete Stop Engage the Forward/reverse Lever Slowly to Prevent Launching Driver From the Weight Mover

Braking:

- If Equipped with Hydraulic Brakes, Do Not Use the Accelerator and Brake at the Same Time
- If Equipped with Auto Locking Brakes, Move Control Lever to Neutral

Skill Requirement: Brake Weight Mover While Moving Forward and Backwards

continued on page 13

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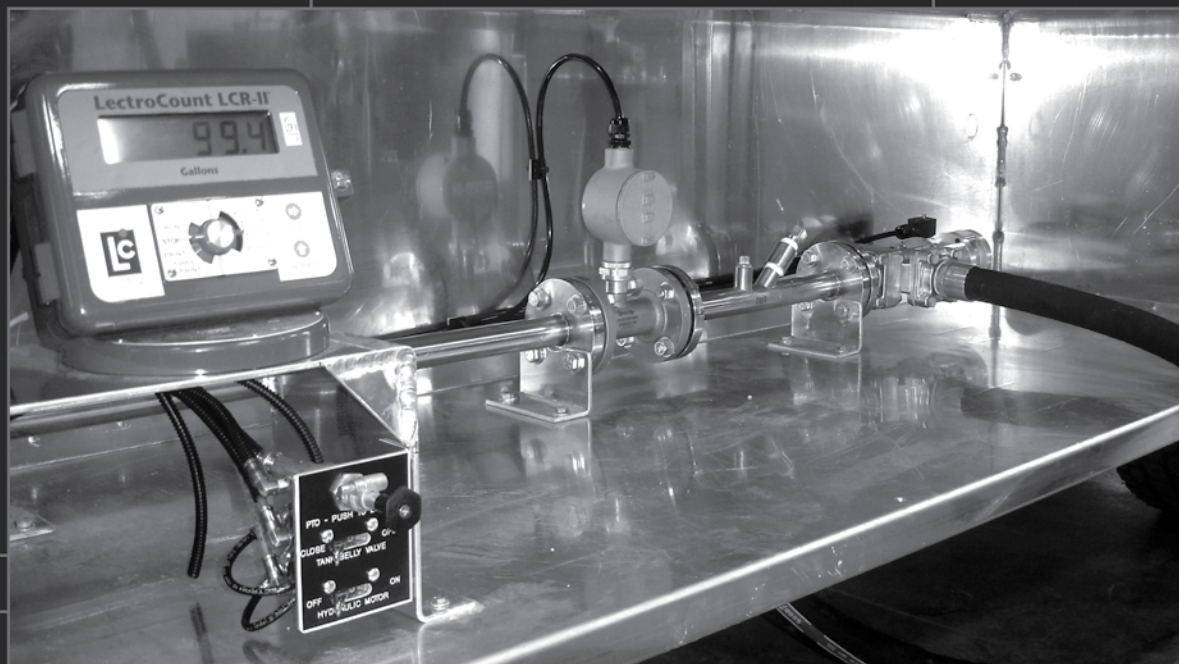
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* NTEP CC 04-097A3

Meter Size	Flow Rates (gpm)
1/2"	1.3 - 15
5/8"	1.75 - 16
3/4"	2.6 - 30
1"	4 - 75
1 1/4"	6 - 110
1 1/2"	8 - 150
2"	15 - 225

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'10 Event Calendar

Be sure to mark your calendar for all the upcoming NCWM and regional meetings.

February

24 THRU 25 **NTETC Belt-Conveyor Sector Meeting**
St. Louis, Missouri — Double Tree Westport Hotel
Contact: NCWM P. 402.434.4880
E. info@ncwm.net W. www.ncwm.net

March

2 THRU 3 **NTETC Software Sector Meeting**
Sacramento, California — Red Lion Inn, Arden Way
Contact: NCWM P. 402.434.4880
E. info@ncwm.net W. www.ncwm.net

May

10 THRU 13 **Northeastern Annual Meeting (NEWMA)**
Groton, Connecticut — Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa
Contact: James Cassidy P. 617.349.6133
E. jcassidy@cambridgema.gov W. www.newma.us

16 THRU 20 **Central Annual Meeting (CWMA)**
Springfield, Illinois — Hilton
Contact: Jonelle Brent P. 217.785.8301
E. jonelle.brent@illinois.gov W. www.cwma.net

July

11 THRU 15 **NCWM Annual Meeting**
St. Paul, Minnesota — Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront
Contact: NCWM P. 402.434.4880
E. info@ncwm.net W. www.ncwm.net

August

25 THRU 26 **NTETC Grain Analyzer Sector Meeting**
Kansas City, Missouri — Chase Suites Hotel
Contact: NCWM P. 402.434.4880
E. info@ncwm.net W. www.ncwm.net

31 THRU 2 **NTETC Weighing Sector Meeting**
Columbus, Ohio — Embassy Suites Hotel
Contact: NCWM P. 402.434.4880
E. info@ncwm.net W. www.ncwm.net

September

12 THRU 15 **Central Interim Meeting (CWMA)**
Rock Island, Illinois — Holiday Inn Rock Island
Contact: Vicky Dempsey P. 937.225.6309
E. dempseyv@mcOhio.org W. www.cwma.net

27 THRU 30 **Western Annual Meeting (WWMA)**
Olympia, Washington — Hotel TBD
Contact: Joe Gomez P. 575.646.1616
E. jgomez@nmda.nmsu.edu W. www.westernwma.org

October

1 THRU 2 **NTETC Measuring Sector Meeting**
Columbia, South Carolina — Hilton Columbia Center
Contact: NCWM P. 402.434.4880
E. info@ncwm.net W. www.ncwm.net

13 THRU 14 **Northeastern Interim Meeting (NEWMA)**
Norwich, Connecticut — Marriott Courtyard, Norwich
Contact: James Cassidy P. 617.349.6133
E. jcassidy@cambridgema.gov W. www.newma.us

TBD **Southern Interim Meeting (SWMA)**
Location TBD — Hotel TBD
Contact: Derek Underwood P. 803.734.7321
E. derekmunderwood@bellsouth.net W. www.swma.org

Motorized Weight Mover Safety Continued

Overhead Clearance:

- Clearance Must be Sufficient for Inspector to Safely and Easily Maneuver the Weight Mover Without Hitting Their Head on Overhead Obstructions
- If There is Insufficient Clearance the Inspector Should Not Attempt to Use the Mover Unmounted

Skill Requirement: Visually Demonstrate the Ability to Judge Proper Overhead Clearance

Steep Slopes/Inclines:

- Do Not Use the Weight Mover on a Steep Slope or Incline Which Compromises the Stability of the Unit - Tip Over Risk
- You Shall Not Conduct Inspections on Slopes or Inclines Which Prevent Safe Braking or Maneuvering

Skill Requirement: Visually Demonstrate the Ability to Judge a Steep Slope or Incline

Proper Use of the Weight Mover:

- No Unauthorized Use of the Weight Mover
- It is an Official Vehicle Which May Only be Used for Official Business

Skill Requirement: Verbally Demonstrate the Ability to Judge Proper Official Business

Mechanical Problems:

- Every Mechanical Problem Must be Reported to Your Supervisor
- Hang Red Tag on the Weight Mover and Turn Stub in to Your Supervisor
- Weight Mover May Not be Used Until Safety Problems Have Been Corrected

Unforeseen Problems:

- The Weight Mover May Not be Used in Any Unsafe Condition Not Addressed by This Policy
- Report All Unsafe Conditions, Whether Mechanical or Situational, to Your Supervisor

— Manuel Villicana, NCWM Member

Chairman's Column Continued

cell manufactures and private label certificate holders. Audit checklists and timetables for conformance have been adopted. This program has been of great interest to the load cell world, and in response to requests for more information sharing between stakeholders, a special session was held on Tuesday afternoon, January 26th. This forum allowed interested stakeholders to get together and ask questions, share experiences and to discuss the perceived merits and shortcomings of the program. Both the session attendance and the dialogue were excellent. In the end, I believe that the vast majority of stakeholders represented at this meeting were supportive of the fundamental philosophy behind VCAP. Ideas emerged that will warrant further discussion, and I really appreciate all those that attended and participated. It was time well spent on such an important topic.

Another significant administrative issue that was presented at the interim meeting was under the heading of Efficiency and Effectiveness of the NCWM, specifically the concept of splitting the S&T Committee into two separate standing committees—one

for weighing devices and another for measuring devices. At the fall BOD meeting, Steve Malone agreed to head a work group with Mark Coyne and Carol Hockett to explore feasible options that might potentially provide some relief to this committee, which historically has had to wrestle with a large number of technical items. Their report led us to consider alternatives to splitting the S&T that might also be of benefit to other standing committees. One concept discussed was to return to the pre 2003 format of the Interim Meeting, which allowed standing committees to hold their open hearings concurrently. This obviously would result in more work session time for each committee. However, many voiced their opposition to this idea during the BOD open hearings. We will continue to take comments on Interim Meeting structure and have more discussion at the Annual Meeting. Another approach was to encourage committee chairman to effectively use the tools that are available now, such as returning developing items to the regions/original proposer and supporting the formation of task/work groups to take ownership of complex issues and periodically report their progress to the standing

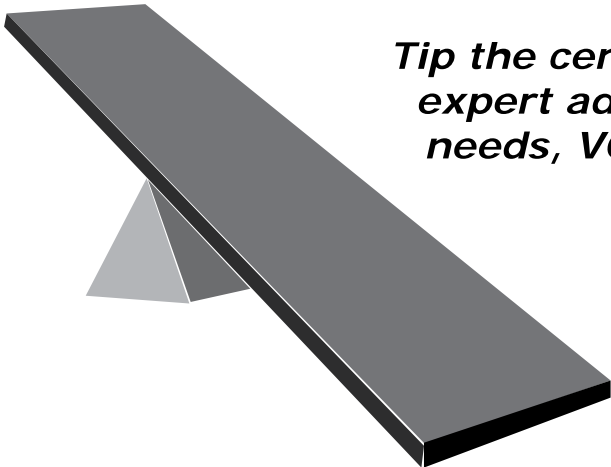
committee until the task group feels the item is fully developed. Both the S&T and L&R Committees are currently looking for that type support relative to some items that came before those committees on the Interim agenda.

All told, I believe that the past six months have been successful for the NCWM, thanks to all the many dedicated volunteers and staff at headquarters. As always, please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any suggestions for improvement of this organization. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again soon.


Randy Jennings, Chairman



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- | | | | |
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Washington State Patrol | Lloyd Tracey
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CCSI | Ronald Wenzel
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| Cynthia Garey
Bureau Veritas | Mike Kuntz
Montana Weights and Measures Bureau | Lance Robertson
Measurement Canada | Timothy Woodcome
National Quality Assurance (NQA) |
| Gary Gillespie
Innovative Machine, Inc. | Craig Lawson
Jonel Engineering | Samuel Sagarsee
Emery Winslow Scale Co. | |
| James Grau
Harry Grau & Sons, Inc. | Soo Lee
Express Business Solutions | Brian Sause
Hardwood Plywood and Veneer Associate | |
| David Gusmini
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