



European Commission

Enterprise Directorate-General



The Acquis in the field of Legal Metrology

- ✓ Units of Measurement
- ✓ Measuring Instruments
- ✓ Pre-packaging



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The main challenge is how to create

against a great variety of Countries, Technical regulations, Technical culture, Industrial standards, Administrative infrastructures.....

One single market



- ✓ one common technical environment
- ✓ one common legislative framework
- ✓ one coordinated enforcement policy



Implementation:

- ✓ Coordination
- ✓ Guidance
- ✓ Cooperation with WELMEC
- ✓ Membership of WELMEC



Legal Metrology

- ✓ One of the oldest regulated areas in society.
- ✓ Highly complex and technical.
- ✓ Unexpected high political profile, with large and sometime violent press coverage.



Units of measurement

Directive 80/181 of 20 December 1977

- ✓ Units mentioned in Chapter 1.
- ✓ Economic, public health, public safety or administrative purposes, with exception of international transport, with the exception of...
- ✓ Dual labelling.
- ✓ Derogations.
- ✓ Possible adjustments to be expected before 2009.
- ✓ National derogations.



Measuring Instruments.

Two series of regulation, fundamentally different in nature

1. Old Approach harmonisation by Directive 71/316 on common provisions, combined with 18 specific directives, 11 of which will be repealed as from 30 October 2006.
2. New Approach harmonisation in relation to
Measuring instruments (Directive 2004/22)
Non automatic weighing instruments (Directive 90/384).



Directive 71/316 on common provisions for both measuring instruments and methods of metrological control

- ✓ Directive 76/765 alcohol meters and alcohol hydrometers.
- ✓ Directive 76/766 alcohol tables.
- ✓ Directive 71/317 5 to 50 kilogramme medium accuracy rectangular bar weights and 1 gramme to 10 kilogramme medium accuracy cylindrical weights.
- ✓ Directive 74/148 weights from 1 milligramme to 50 kilogramme of above medium accuracy.
- ✓ Directive 86/217 tyre pressure gauges for motor vehicles.
- ✓ Directive 71/347 measuring of the standard mass per storage volume of grain.
- ✓ Directive 71/349 calibration of the tanks of vessels (ship tanks).



Common provisions and specific directives

- ✓ Old Approach and Optional harmonization
- ✓ Based on EEC Pattern Approval and/or EEC Initial Verification
- ✓ Technical requirements (design, functioning, accuracy) and control procedures (based on common provisions) determined by implementing specific directives
- ✓ Control of instruments in service determined by specific directives
- ✓ Characters and abbreviations to be fixed by law, adoption of which is scheduled for 2006



Measuring Instruments and Non automatic weighing instruments

- ✓ Total harmonisation
- ✓ New Approach harmonisation
- ✓ Based on international work



The Measurement Instruments Directive has some particular features:

“Optionality”: whether or not there is legal metrological control is a Member State’s decision. However, where legal metrological control takes place, only CE marked instruments can be used

Commission through Comitology can designate (parts of) OIML Documents that provide presumption of conformity to essential requirements ; procedure differs from ENs, effect is the same.



Pre-packaging

Issues dealt with:

- ✓ Nominal quantities of pre-packed products
- ✓ Metrological requirements for pre-packed products

Product coverage:

- ✓ Liquids for human consumption,
- ✓ Other liquids and non-liquids



	Liquids for human consumption	Other liquids and non liquids
Metrological Requirements	75/106 Annexes 1 & 2	76/211
Nominal quantities	75/106 Annex 3	80/232



OM 2004/708 - Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules on nominal quantities for pre-packed products, repealing Council Directives 75/106/EEC and 80/232/EEC, and amending Council Directive 76/211/EEC

Nominal quantities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Prohibits all regulation of nominal quantities, also at national level,✓ Fixes quantities by way of exception for specific products✓ Under discussion with EP and Council
Metrological Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Abolishes 75/106✓ Makes 76/211 applicable to all products



Consequences for implementing the “acquis”

- ✓ Implement Directive 76/211 for metrological requirements.
- ✓ Implement Directive 75/106 as regards nominal quantities for wine and spirit drinks, establishing total harmonisation.
- ✓ Wait for implementing Community provisions on nominal quantities for other products, awaiting adoption of COM 2004/708.
- ✓ Not object for reasons of nominal quantities to products legally placed on the market in a Member States.



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Pre-packaging

Directive 75/107/EEC

relating to bottles used as measuring containers.



The importance of implementation

- ✓ Elaborating a directive is 5 (?) % of the work
- ✓ Transposition is even less.....
- ✓ Implementation is the major task and difficulty.....and requires
- ✓ Guidance for authorities and market operators
- ✓ Coordination and cooperation between authorities at national and Community level



- ✓ WELMEC has become over the years the major platform for administrative cooperation, involving authorities and interested parties ; it is essential that candidate countries participate in WELMEC activities
- ✓ The Commission has set up an informal group composed of authorities and interested parties
- ✓ The relation between Commission and WELMEC has been set out in a Commission declaration presented to WELMEC in 2004, at the occasion of the 20th WELMEC Committee Meeting.
- ✓ The formal Committees set up by the Directives only meet, rather occasionally, in order to implement the tasks delegated to the Commission by the various directives.