

TRADE MEASUREMENT

The Role of the Trade Measurement Inspector

Trade Measurement inspectors endeavour to safeguard consumers' rights to fair measurement by:

- Calibrating and certifying measurement standards used to determine mass, volume, length and area;
- Carrying out on-site inspections to verify the accuracy of measured goods;
- Ensuring that all measuring instruments in use for trade are of a pattern approved by the National Measurement Institute.
- Monitoring all measuring instruments in use for trade to ensure that they are accurate and that they have been either verified by an inspector or certified by a licensed servicemen; and
- Investigating consumer complaints and identifying and resolving problem areas.

ACCURATE MEASURE

Trade measurement inspectors make it their business to see that consumers get exactly what they pay for, whether at the petrol pump, butcher's shop or the supermarket. In terms of measuring instruments, the job begins with a thorough analysis of the pattern of the instrument.

It must first meet rigid requirements for design, accuracy and construction. Once the model or prototype has passed the test, every individual instrument is either verified by an inspector or certified by a licensed serviceman. Inspectors will monitor the work of servicemen by testing audit of the instruments they certify.

Inspectors regularly retest each measuring instrument to ensure that all instruments continue to measure accurately.

PRE-PACKED GOODS

Pre-packaged goods are generally required to carry a quantity statement and are inspected regularly to verify that they are measured accurately and, where priced according to the quantity are priced correctly.

Trade Measurement Inspectors devote time to educating traders, consulting with industry associations, measuring instrument manufacturers and service organizations as well as investigating any reported cases of improper measuring practices and ensuring corrective action is taken.

For further information contact Trade Measurement

106 Reichardt Rd Winnellie NT 0820 GPO Box 1722, Darwin NT 0801

Ph: 08 8922 0868, Fax: 08 8922 0863

or

Level 1, Belvedere House, Parsons Street, PO Box 1745 Alice Springs NT 0871

Telephone: 08 8951 5439 Fax: 08 8951 5442

Email: consumer@nt.gov.au

Web site: consumeraffairs.nt.gov.au

General Disclaimer: The material contained in this publication is intended for use as a guide and for general information only. It is not intended to be a substitute for independent professional advice. The Northern Territory Department of Justice accepts no responsibility or liability for the correctness, accuracy and completeness of any of the material contained in this publication and recommends that users of this publication exercise their own skill, care and judgment in the application of the information contained in the publication.