



# SCALE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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**Minutes**  
**SMA Technical Committee Meeting**  
**November 9-10, 2011**  
**(Revised Jan 10, 2012)**  
**Hilton Garden Inn**  
**New Orleans, LA**

## 1. Call to Order

Darrell Flocken called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. on November 9, 2011. The following were present:

SMA Technical Committee Members:

Darrell Flocken (Chair)  
Mettler-Toledo

Lou Straub (Vice Chair)  
Fairbanks

Paul Lewis  
Rice Lake

Rob Upright  
Vishay

Donnie Hawkins  
Coti-Global

SMATC Members Not Present: Nigel Mills (Hobart)

SMA Members Present: Stephen Langford (Cardinal Scale), Tom Fink (Hobart), Evan Foisy (Sartorius)  
David Calix (NCR)

Guests Present: Steve Giguere – NCWM S&T Chairman

## 2. Approval of Minutes from July Meeting

It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes of the July 12, 2011 teleconference of the SMATC.

## 3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with one addition. The "Smart Junction Boxes" workgroup was added to item 7.7. (NTEP).

## 4. Old Business

#### **4.1. Review Agenda of S&T Committee**

Steve Giguere of the Maine Department of Agriculture and Chair of the NCWM S&T Committee reviewed the General Code, Scale Code, Belt Conveyor Scale Systems Code, and MDMD Code Agenda Items from the draft of NCWM Pub 15. A two way exchange of views helped everyone to better understand the issues and to voice concerns.

#### **4.2. Current status of NTEP Conformity Assessment Progress**

##### **4.2.1 VCAP**

Steve Langford addressed the current status of VCAP.

He reported that in May there were eight parent NTEP CC holders that did not comply with VCAP and a total of 22 CC's were made inactive. Since then two companies have completed their VCAP audits and a combined 9 CC's were reactivated. Four companies state they intend to comply with VCAP and two companies have indicated that they will let their CC's remain inactive.

In October 2011 eight private label load cell NTEP CC holders had successfully completed their VCAP audits – these companies hold 98 of the 127 private label load cell CC's. Three companies indicate they are close to completing the audit process; two new companies have until 2012 to complete their audits leaving six companies that have not completed the required audit process.

Load receiving elements of 2000 lbs or less using non-NTEP load cells has been proposed for the next device type to be covered under VCAP. The NTEP Committee is looking for comments at the NCWM Interim Meeting in January 2012.

The NTEP also discussed two letters (from Cardinal and Mettler-Toledo) supporting the formation of a VCAP Committee. The NTEP is looking for additional comments during the 2012 NCWM Interim Meeting before a decision is made to form this committee.

##### **4.2.2. Initial Verification**

Initial verification is on hold at this time.

##### **4.2.3. Certificate Review**

Certificate review is on hold at this time.

(The SMATC discussed the idea of removing Initial Verification and Certificate Review from future TC agenda's since there has been no activity by the NTEP Committee in these areas.)

#### **5. New Business**

One new item was raised and can be found under **NTEP Item 7.7**. There was no other new business.

#### **6. Report/Discussion of Outside Activities**

##### **6.1. NCWM Associate Member Committee (AMC) Report**

Darrell Flocken, current AMC Secretary/Treasurer, gave a brief report on the AMC and the need to re-evaluate the function of this committee. In the past, one of the main functions of the AMC was to support the Conference outing. Now, with the change in NCWM policy, the AMC needs to

decide how the additional AMC funds should be used. The AMC will be meeting in January 2012, in conjunction with the Interim Meeting.

## **6.2. NCWM BOD Update**

Steve Langford reported on the highlights from the NCWM BOD meeting which was held in October.

Membership in the NCWM is at about the same level as last year – around 1970 for the last four years. The NCWM continues to gain financial strength. At the end of the fiscal year on September 30<sup>th</sup>, the NCWM held over 1.2 million in cash and cash equivalents.

Dates and locations of future meetings of the NCWM and the Regional Associations were provided and can be found in the **Calendar of Meetings**.

The State of Nevada has a new Director, David Jones. Carol Hockert reported that NIST OWM will have no cut in budget and, perhaps, actually an increase in their budget based on their measured impact.

9 NTEP CC's have been issued thus far under the MAA – all were from the NMI in the Netherlands.

The NTEP Customer Satisfaction survey has been completed with a total of 27 responses; 5 of them not submitting a device for evaluation within the last 18 months. In general the responses were positive; the California Lab followed by the Measurement Canada Lab were the labs most responsible for the complaints.

## **7. NTEP**

### **7.1. 2011 Weighing Sector**

Darrell Flocken reported on discussions at the Weighing Sector meeting. The draft minutes will soon be available on the NCWM web site. The next Weighing Sector Meeting is scheduled for August 28-29, 2012 in Annapolis, MD.

### **7.2. Development of an NTEP Certificate of Conformity Standard document**

There does not appear to be any strong support for the development of this document. The SMATC will not pursue this item at the current time.

### **7.3. SMA Maps**

#### **7.3.1. Current Adoption Status**

#### **7.3.2. NTEP Map**

#### **7.3.3. Sales Personnel Registration Map**

The three maps were reviewed – it was decided to take down the Sales Personnel map from the SMA website until this information could be updated.

### **7.4. W&M Directors Question Program – Report for 2011**

Lou Straub reviewed the 2011 questions and the process that is used to develop and present them at each Regional W&M Conference. The non-attributable version will be posted to SMA's web site. The committee decided to approach the SMA Board with the idea of allocating funds to restart the Directors Breakfast.

### **7.5. SMA Scorecard for 2011**

Lou Straub reviewed the scorecard results after the July NCWM annual meeting. Electronic copies are available to SMA members.

#### **7.6. NCWM Software Sector**

Paul Lewis gave a update on the activities of the Software Sector. The next Software Sector meeting will be held in March, 2012.

#### **7.7. "New item" – Smart Junction Boxes**

Steve Langford asked that this item be added to the agenda. During the 2011 Weighing Sector Ed Payne, with the Maryland NTEP Lab, indicated he was evaluating a "smart junction box" and expressed concern about what parameters need to be evaluated since an EPO in Pub 14 does not exist. It was decided that a workgroup would be formed to develop new language for Pub 14 and it would be submitted at the next Weighing Sector. Steve held a brief teleconference and has sent an email to the Weighing Sector members asking for help with this project.

### **8. International**

#### **8.1. Mutual Recognition (MAA)**

#### **8.2. U.S./Canada**

#### **8.3. U.S./OIML**

A general discussion was held covering this Section of the agenda.

The MAA is being used and 9 NTEP Certificates have been issued for R60 (load cells). Comments have been made by EU countries asking why the US will not accept manufacturers test data for R76 devices.

The change from 3 m/v to 10 m/v in the EU was discussed. At this time it is unclear exactly when this requirement will take effect.

Jean Lemay has retired from Measurement Canada. Pieter Van Breugel has resigned from NMI.

### **9. Next Meeting**

The next SMATC meeting will be via conference call and will be scheduled about two weeks before the NCWM Interim Meeting in January 2012.

### **10. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

#### **Executive Session**

The SMATC reconvened in executive session at 1:45 p.m. on November 9, 2011. The meeting adjourned for the day at 4:15 p.m. and reconvened in executive session at 9:00 a.m. on November 12.

### **1. Review and Update of Recommended SMA Positions on NCWM Agenda Items**

The SMATC reviewed the draft NCWM Pub 15 S&T agenda and developed proposed SMA positions on the various items. Proposed positions will be presented to the SMA membership for approval on November 11.

## **2. NTEP VCAP Implementation**

This item was discussed in the morning session. NTEP has received two letters (from Cardinal and Mettler-Toledo) supporting the formation of a VCAP Committee. The NTEP is looking for additional comments during the 2012 NCWM Interim Meeting before a decision is made to form this committee. The TC members present agreed that a "permanent" workgroup would be beneficial to VCAP Implementation.

## **3. Technical Committee – Member Terms**

The SMATC has one member that will complete his term in 2012 (Hawkins – Coti-Global). We need to recommend a replacement to the SMA Board of Directors during the April meeting.

## **4. New Business**

### **4.1. NCWM and NIST participation at SMA Meetings**

The item was discussed – currently the S&T Chairman will attend the Fall Meeting and the NCWM Executive Director or the NTEP Administrator will attend the Spring Meeting. Carol Hockert with NIST will attend both meetings.

### **4.2. NTEP Certificate of Conformity Standard document**

This item was discussed earlier and will be dropped at this time.

### **4.3. Development roles and responsibilities document for the TC Chair and Vice-Chair.**

It was decided to meet on Thursday (11/10) morning at 9:00 AM to review and work on this document.

### **4.4. Other**

Paul Lewis raised a question concerning a scale installation requested by the State of Illinois DOT and why "7 foot" was selected as the minimum span for a vehicle scale section in Pub 14. This item was discussed by the Weighing Sector in 2009. Paul may bring something to the next weighing sector regarding this item based on their test results.

## **5. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM. The next meeting will be via conference call and will be scheduled in January, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

Darrell Flocken – Chair  
Lou Straub – Vice Chair

November 11, 2012

## Calendar of Meetings 2012

<b>NCWM Interim Meeting</b> New Orleans	January 22-25, 2012	Hotel Monteleone
<b>SMA Annual Meeting</b> TBA	April, 2012	TBA
<b>NEWMA Annual Meeting</b> Seakonk, MA	May 14-17, 2012	Johnson & Wales Inn
<b>CWMA Annual Conference</b> Cedar Rapids, IA	May 20-24, 2012	Marriott Cedar Rapids
<b>NCWM 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting</b> Portland, ME	July 15-19, 2012	Holiday Inn by the Bay
<b>NTEP Weighing Sector</b> Annapolis, MD	August 28-29, 2012	TBA
<b>WWMA Annual Meeting</b> Breckenridge, CO	September 27-30, 2012	TBA
<b>CWMA Interim Conference</b> TBA	September, 2012	TBA
<b>NTEP Measuring Sector</b> TBA - Kentucky	October, 2012	TBA
<b>SWMA Annual Meeting</b> TBA - Kentucky	October, 2012	TBA
<b>NEWMA Interim Meeting</b> TBA	October 16-17, 2012	TBA
<b>SMA Fall Meeting</b> TBA	November, 2012	TBA
<b>NCWM Interim Meeting</b> Charleston, SC	January 27-30, 2013	Francis Marion Hotel