



WEIGHLOG

SCALE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
6724 Lone Oak Blvd. • Naples, Florida 34109
<http://www.scalemanufacturers.org>

SUMMER 2008

SMA Member Companies

REGULAR MEMBERS

Avery Weigh-Tronix, Inc.

Cardinal Scale Manufacturing Company

Fancor, Inc.

ITW Food Equipment Group

Hottinger Baldwin Measurements

Mettler-Toledo, Inc.

Sartorius Corporation

Systems Associates, Inc.

Vishay Transducers

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A&D Engineering, Inc.

Flintec, Inc.

NCR

Rice Lake Weighing Systems



SCALE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SMA ANNUAL MEETING

The SMA Annual Meeting convened, for the first time, at the Sundial Beach and Golf Resort on Sanibel Island, Florida from April 16 to April 18, 2008. The hotel was situated on the Gulf of Mexico and featured beautiful sand beaches, a variety of room options, and the quaint and quirky environment of this famous Florida barrier island and vacation destination.



The meeting went very well. Carol P. Fulmer, Director of Weights and Measures, South Carolina Department of Agriculture and Chair of the NCWM S&T Committee worked with the SMA Technical Committee on Wednesday in a discussion of the agenda items of the S&T Committee which will meet in July at the NCWM Annual Meeting. The give and take between Carol and the SMA Members provided an excellent opportunity for all to hone in on the issues and discuss the agenda items in detail. Additionally, we were visited on Friday by Carol Hockert, the Chief of the NIST Weights and Measures Division as well as Judy Cardin, Chair of the National Conference on Weights and Measures. They both discussed items of mutual interest to their organizations and the SMA. All in all it was an excellent series of meetings and the SMA thanks all three of these people for taking the time out of their busy schedules to visit and share with us.



Todd Manifold congratulates Steve Langford on his election as President of SMA.



Steve Langford presents Todd Manifold a token of appreciation for his service as President of SMA.

The SMA Board of Directors met. Stephen Langford was elected to succeed Todd Manifold as the SMA President. Richard Norden completed his several years on the Board. As for the SMA Technical Committee, they appointed Lou Straub to replace Darrell Flocken as Chair of the SMA Technical Committee. Mr. Flocken had very successful served five years in that position. Mr. Flocken was appointed Vice Chair. Tal Rahav, Vishay Transducers was appointed to a one year term. Stephen Langford (Cardinal Scale Manufacturing Company), Lou Straub (Fancor, Inc.) and Mark Knowles (HBM), having completed their three year terms on the SMA Technical Committee, were re-appointed to three year terms expiring in 2011.

Faced with declining membership and revenues, the board chose to eliminate the position of SMA Technical Assistant as of July 1, 2008. Phil Hannigan will no longer be associated with the SMA. After that date the SMA TC Vice Chair will take on the Technical Assistant responsibilities. Phil has served as SMA's Technical Assistant since July 1, 1994 and will be missed by his friends and colleagues. He, in turn, wishes the association, members of the regulatory and government community, friends, and acquaintances, well in their pursuit of equity in the marketplace.

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OFFICERS

President

Stephen Langford
*Cardinal Scale
Manufacturing Company*

Vice President

Doug Biette
Sartorius Corporation

Immediate Past President

Todd Manifold
Mettler-Toledo, Inc.

Executive Director

Robert A. Reinfried
SMA

DIRECTORS

Term Expires 2009

Steve Beitzel
Systems Associates

STAFF

Secretary

Philip G. Hannigan

Meeting Coordinator

Kimberly MacLaren

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Todd Manifold presented Rick Norden a plaque to thank him for his service on the SMA Board of Directors.

The General Business Session met on Friday. At the open session we discussed items of mutual interest with Carol Hockert and Judy Cardin and received the report of the SMA Technical Committee on the results of their deliberations. At the executive session we adopted SMA positions, discussed the state of the industry, and approved several technical documents.

Carol Hockert, provided an update on her division activities and the programs of interest to the membership.

- Budget: Their FY 2008 budget is up 2%; less than requested. Due to the election year the FY 2009 budget is uncertain so they are planning conservatively. The upshot is that they do not expect to engage in any new, large initiatives in the next year.
- NTEP - OIML - MAA: To help overcome the impasse of not having a lab capable of allowing the U.S. to sign on to the MAA as an A (Issuing Authority) signatory for R76, they are prepared to consider solutions that might be found using a NIST/NCWM/SMA partnership approach. In a later discussion she indicated that she is willing to inquire about a federal laboratory for that purpose at NIST should SMA make such a request.
- Personnel: Tom Coleman, Lynn Sebring, and Dick Suiter recently retired. They have hired John Barton to take care of Belt Scales (R50) and Railway Track Scales (R106), and Dave Sefcik for Laws and Metrics. Steve Cook remains Tech Advisor to NCWM and maintains responsibility for Load Cells (R60) and Non-automatic Weighing Systems (R76)
- Web Site: They have produced a three page chart that shows all of the state metrology labs in the country, their range of capabilities, and accreditations. It is downloadable from http://ts.nist.gov/WeightsAndMeasures/upload/Calibration_Scope_Summary_February_2008_Final.pdf

Judy Cardin presented a thorough briefing on the activities of the NCWM Board of Directors as well as issues they deem of mutual concern with SMA members. Items of particular note include the following:

- They are canceling their contract with their current management company effective September 30, 2008. Don Onwiler has been chosen as NCWM Executive Director and will move the NCWM headquarters office to Lincoln, Nebraska. Jim Truex has been chosen as the NTEP Administrator and will operate from a home office in Ohio. Both will be on three year contracts. The official change-over date will be October 1, 2008. They will be supported initially by two full time staff.
- Jim Truex will run the VCAP program. They plan to approve a VCAP Pilot Program at their next board meeting in conjunction with the May CWMA meeting in Kansas City, Kansas.
- The NTETC Weighing Sector will meet September 23-25, 2008 at the Hilton, St. Louis Frontenac Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. The NCWM Interim Meeting will be January 11-14, 2009 at the Hilton, Daytona Beach, Florida, and the NCWM Annual Meeting in 2009 will be July 12-16 at the Marriott Plaza Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Chair

Lou Straub
Fancor, Inc.

Vice Chair

Darrell Flocken
Mettler-Toledo, Inc.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Terms Expire 2009

Doug Biette
Sartorius Corporation

Nigel G. Mills
ITW Food Equipment Group

Tal Rahav
Vishay Transducers

Terms Expire 2010

Darrell Flocken
Mettler-Toledo, Inc.

Leon Lammers
Avery Weigh-Tronix, Inc.

Terms Expire 2011

Stephen Langford
Cardinal Scale Manufacturing Company

Mark Knowles
Hottinger Baldwin Measurements

Lou Straub
Fancor, Inc.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Phil Hannigan
SMA

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• The Board is changing the funding for NCWM meeting events. It will no longer accept supplemental funding from the associate membership committee. They are preparing a written policy to cover the Annual Meeting, Interim Meeting, and the Regional W&M Meetings as well.

• With regard to a R76 certified U.S. laboratory, she is open to a brain storming session regarding laboratory options.

The **SMA Production Meets Type Program** is into its sixth year. The companies that were originally certified in 2002 were due to have their five year re-audit in 2007 and 2008. The Hobart ITW Food Equipment Group successfully completed its five year re-audit in February of this year. Rick Cartwright, vice president and general manager of retail systems, formally accepted the company's certificate of recertification at this meeting. Recertification



SMA President, Todd Manifold, presents Rick Cartwright a certificate of successful completion of their five year SMA PMT Program Re-audit.



authorizes the company to continue to use the SMA PMT Logo in promoting their devices that are manufactured and inspected under the requirements of the program. (Mettler-Toledo had previously completed theirs while Avery Weigh-Tronix and HBM are due for theirs later in 2008)

The **SMA Technical Committee** met on Wednesday and Thursday. It completed work on **Recommended SMA Positions** on the Agenda of the NCWM S&T Committee, **SMA 's NTEP Questions for 2008**, and an updated set of **NTEP Maps** to include a new one that tracks **States That Require Registration of Scale Sales Personnel**.

In addition it completed work on a **Load Cell Application and Test Guideline**, which was designed to serve as an complement to the **SMA Standard "Load Cell Specifications" (SMA LCS 04-99)**.

It also completed work on an update of the **SMA RFI/EMI Field Test Procedures for Electronic Scales** which was originally published in the 1978. The updated document helps field officials and users to determine if the scale they are using will perform in the presence of Electro-Magnetic Interference or Radio Frequency Interference.



Todd Manifold presented Darrell Flocken a token of appreciation for his service as the Chair of the SMA Technical Committee.

Lou Straub was chosen to succeed Darrell Flocken as Chair of the SMA Technical Committee after a very successful five year term.

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO SMA MEMBERS

CWMA Annual Meeting

Great Wolf Lodge
Kansas City, KS
May 4-7, 2008

NEWMA Annual Meeting

Holiday Inn Conference Center
Fishkill, NY
May 12-15, 2008

NCWM 93rd Annual Meeting

Sheraton Burlington Hotel &
Conference Center
Burlington, VT
July 13-17, 2008

WWMA Annual Meeting

Marriott
Anchorage, AK
September 7-11, 2008

CWMA Annual Meeting

Holiday Inn Rock Island Hotel &
Conference Center
Rock Island, IL
September 14-17, 2008

Weighing Sector Meeting

Hilton Frontenac Hotel
St Louis, MO
September 23-25, 2008

SWMA Interim Meeting

Doubletree Hotel Atlanta Airport
Atlanta, GA
October 5-8, 2008

NEWMA Interim Meeting

Springfield Sheraton Monarch
Springfield, MA
October 15-16, 2008

SMA Fall Meeting

Big Cedar Lodge
Ridgedale, MO
November 12-14, 2008

NCWM 94th Interim Meeting

The Hilton
Daytona Beach, FL
January 11-14, 2009

SMA NTEP Questions for 2008 Published

The SMA NTEP Questions for 2008 have been compiled and published on the SMA web site's Home Page (scalemanufacturers.org)

Since 1997, the Scale Manufacturers Association and the National Conference on Weights and Measures have invited state directors, or their representatives, attending their regional Weights and Measures association meetings to comment on a series of three to four questions regarding the NTEP program implementation in their jurisdictions.

The candidate questions for each year have been solicited from SMA, NIST/OWM, NCWM, and State Directors. Those candidate questions are balloted and scored by degree of interest. The top three or four questions are then chosen as the questions for that year. In order to ascertain the degree of uniformity and interpretation of selected W&M practices, the same questions are asked at each regional meeting.

The SMATC has adopted three SMA Questions for 2008 that will be discussed at each of the four regional weights and measures association meetings this year. The questions for this year are:

Question 1: NIST Handbook 44 was first published in 1949; however, only 39 States adopt the handbook on an annual basis. The other states are a year or more behind in the adoption process. State to state will vary in how HB 44 is interpreted; in some cases it is different from county to county and inspector to inspector within the same state. How can the SMA help promote the uniform enforcement of the most recent edition of HB 44?

Question 2: How is the tare for a thin sheet of wax paper weighing 0.002 lb handled on a legal for trade price computing scale of 30 x 0.01 lb capacity? Are your inspectors trained to check proper tare application for scales used in direct sale to a customer? If you require that tare be rounded upward (to 0.01 lb), would your inspectors detect a situation where a wax paper weighing 0.002 lb. were rounded down to zero tare?

Question 3: Suppose company 1 has a weighing or measuring system and next to it is a computer with a self written software program that manages transactions using data from that device. For each transaction the operator of company 1 hand enters the device readings into the computer system. Company 2 across the street also has a very similar system, computer, and self-written software program, but his system and computer are connected by a communications cable so that data is automatically transferred to the computer.

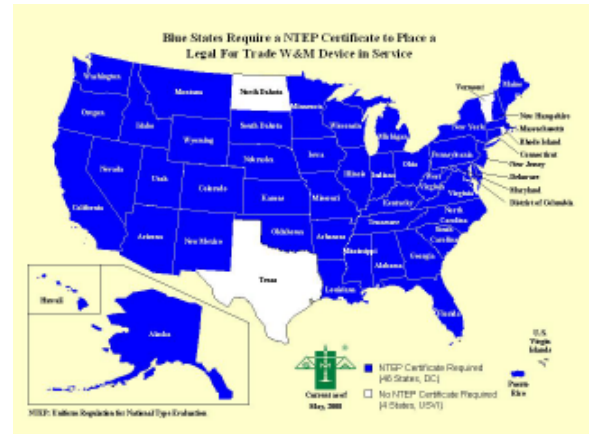
- Does your state now require the software program at company 1 or company 2 have an NTEP certificate? Please explain your states justification for the decision for each company.
- If your answer is not the same for both companies, how do you explain that to the company that has to have a certificate?
- What is the extent of your state's jurisdiction over the transactions processed by the computer system at both companies?
- Do you include examination of the computer system at both companies in initial or subsequent verifications of the device?

NEW SMA NTEP MAP INTRODUCED

For many years, the SMA has sought to track certain NTEP related issues across the United States. It has posted them as maps that are downloadable from the SMA Web Site at <http://scalemanufacturers.org/ntepnmaps.htm>

The first map published tracked the implementation of NTEP throughout the states. It was later modified to indicate States that **Require a NTEP Certificate** to place a legal for trade device in service.

As of May 2008, 48 States and the District of Columbia require these certificates. 4 States and the U.S. Virgin Islands do not require these certificates.



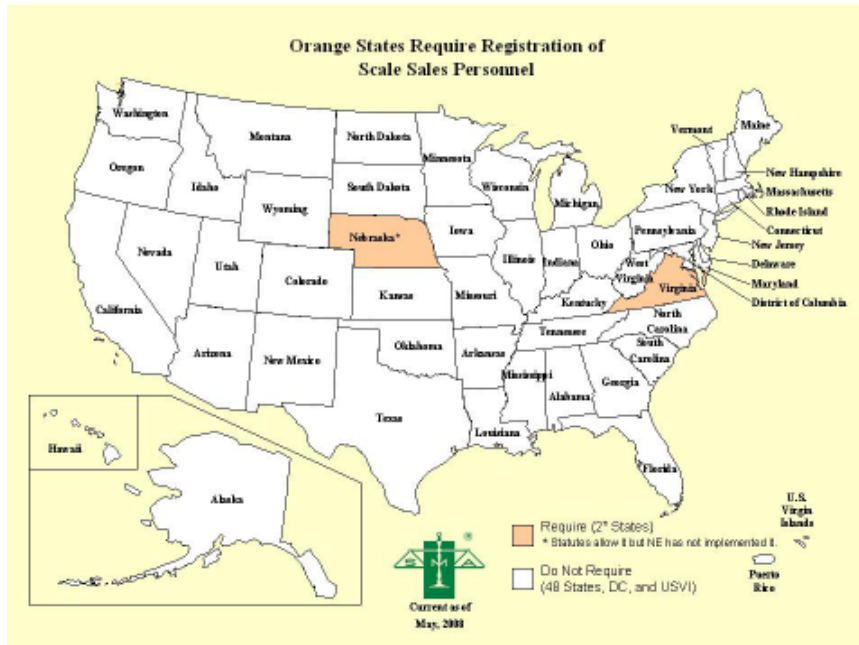
The second map published, tracked States that **Require Registration of Service Agencies and Service Personnel**

As of May 2008, 45 States have the requirement while 5 States, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands to not have this requirement.



This year, the SMA surveyed the States to determine which ones, if any, that **Require Registration of Scale Sales Personnel**.

We discovered that only 2 States have the requirement while the rest do not. Of the two states, Virginia has implemented the requirement while Nebraska has statutes that allow this requirement but it has not implemented it.





**SMA Positions
on the
NCWM Specifications and Tolerances Committee Report
93rd NCWM Annual Meeting, July, 2008**

310 GENERAL CODE

310-1 V G-S.8. Provision for Sealing Electronic Adjustable Components, G-S.8.1. Access to Calibration and Configuration Adjustments, and G-S.8.2. Automatic or Semi-automatic Calibration Mechanism.

The SMA does recognize the need for clarification of G-S.8. We believe that part (a) changes the original intent of the physical security seal and the wording of part (b) could be accomplished by rewording G-S.8.1.

SMA recommends the following wording to replace the current recommendation:

Reword G-S.8.1 ***Access To Calibration and Configuration Adjustments. - A device shall be so designed that access to calibration and configuration mode shall be protected by an approved category 1,2, or 3 method of sealing, and shall clearly indicate to the operator when in this mode.***

[*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 20XX.]

310-2 D Appendix D – Definition of Electronic Devices, Software-Based

The SMA supports moving this item to developmental.

310-3 V G-A.1. and Appendix D – Definition of Equipment

No Position

310-4 V G-N.3. Verification of Testing Standards

The SMA supports this item.

320 SCALES

320-1 V S.1.1.1.(b) Digital Indicating Elements

The SMA supports this item.

320-2 V S.1.2.1. Weight Units, S.2.3. Tare, and T.N.2.1. General

The SMA supports this item but recommends adding “or segment” to the sentence in S.2.3 Tare

S.2.3. Tare. – *On any scale (except a monorail scale equipped with digital indications and multi-interval scales or multiple range scales when the value of tare is determined in a lower range or segment), the value ...*

Rationale: This is consistent with other uses of the word segment for multi-interval scales.

320-3 W S.1.7. Capacity Indication, Weight Ranges, and Units Weights

The SMA supports the withdrawal of this item.

320-4 V S.2.1.5. Initial Zero-Setting Mechanism

The SMA supports this item.

320-5 V S.2.4. Level-Indicating Means and S.2.4.1. Vehicle On-Board Weighing Systems

The SMA supports this item with the following editorial changes.

S.2.4. Level-Indicating Means. – **Except for portable wheel-load weighers and portable axle-load scales, a portable scale shall be equipped with level-indicating means if its weighing performance is changed by an amount greater than the appropriate acceptance tolerance when it is moved from a level position and rebalanced in a position that is out of level up to and including 5 % on a slope or grade (rise over run). ~~up to and including in any upright direction by 5 %~~. The level-indicating means shall be readable without removing any scale parts requiring a tool.**

320-6 V S.2.1.6. Combined Zero-Tare (“0/T”) Key, S.2.3. Value of Tare Indication and Recorded Representations, S.2.4, Preset Tare Mechanism, Appendix D; Definitions for Tare Mechanism, Gross Weight Value, Net Weight, Net Weight Value, Tare, and Tare Weight Value

The SMA opposes this as a Voting Item and recommends that the item be made Informational to allow for further development and evaluation.

Rationale: The proposal is significantly different from that which was published in Publication 15 for the 2008 Interim Conference.

324 AUTOMATIC WEIGHING SYSTEMS

324-1 V S.1.2. Value of Division Units and T.2.1. General

The SMA supports this item but recommends adding “or segment” to the sentence in S.2.2 Tare

S.2.2. Tare. – *On any scale (except a monorail scale equipped with digital indications **and multi-interval scales or multiple range scales when the value of tare is determined in a lower range or segment**), the value ...*

Rationale: This is consistent with other uses of the word segment for multi-interval scales.

324-2 V S.2.2. Value of Tare Indication and Recorded Representations and S.2.3. Preset Tare Mechanism

The SMA opposes this as a Voting Item and recommends that the item be made Informational to allow for further development and evaluation.

Rationale: The proposal is significantly different from that which was published in Publication 15 for the 2008 Interim Conference.

360 OTHER ITEMS

Item 360-2: Developing Items

Part 1, Item 1 General Code: G-S.1. Identification – (Software)

The SMA supports the Software Sector's efforts.

Part 1, Item 2 Appendix D – Definition of Electronic Devices, Software-Based

The SMA takes no position at this time.

Part 2, Item 1 Scales: S.1.4.6. Height and Definition of Minimum Reading Distance, UR.2.10. Primary Indicating Elements Provided by the User, UR.2.11. Minimum Reading Distance and Definitions of Minimum Reading Distance and Primary Indications

No Comment.