

NON AUTOMATIC WEIGHING DIRECTIVE

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Are you aware of the Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments Directive (NAWI)? which came into force on the 1st January 1993 and allows a transitional period of 10 years from that date where non conforming instruments can be purchased and used.

The Directive will apply to you if you are using weighing instruments for among other uses: - Determination of mass for making up medicines on prescription in a pharmacy, or in analyses in medical or pharmaceutical laboratories.

This has been interpreted by the Western European Legal Metrology Co-Operation (WELMEC) as follows: -

Where medical laboratories are laboratories that carry out analyses at the request of medical practitioners and pharmaceutical laboratories are quality control laboratories of manufacturers of medicinal products for human use. Pharmaceutical laboratories do not include the research and development laboratories of manufacturers of these medicinal products.

WHAT DOES THE DIRECTIVE REQUIRE

Weighing instruments used for the purpose described above and purchased after 31st December 2002 must be of a CE approved and verified type (not to be confused with CE marking). You will only be allowed to use non-approved equipment after the 31st December 2002 if you can supply documentary evidence of the installation date being before 1st January 2003. Please note that this does not apply to instruments used for trade and if in doubt you should seek help from your Trading Standards Officer.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Weighing instruments are already available with CE verification from most manufacturers, we advise that if you use weighing equipment within the specified areas when you are purchasing new equipment then it should be the approved verified version.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

Some manufacturers make an additional charge of approximately £100 for a typical top loading or analytical balance; others supply verified versions at no extra charge.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The NAWI directive also affects other types of users, further information, a copy of the DTI product standard booklet or advice on this or any weighing application is available from:

EUROPEAN INSTRUMENTS. SHOTOVER KILNS, OLD ROAD, HEADINGTON, OXFORD, OX3 8ST.

Tel: 01865 750375

Fax: 01865 769985

Email: balances@euroinst.co.uk

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APPLICATIONS

- ❑ **Determination of mass for making up medicines or prescriptions in a pharmacy**
e.g pharmacist weighs out 5 g of drug A which is then used to treat a patient

- ❑ **Analyses**

Medical Laboratory : labs that carry out analyses at the request of a medical practitioner

Pharmaceutical Laboratory: QC labs of manufacturers of medicinal products for human use

- ❑ **Commercial Transactions**
- ❑ **To calculate a toll, tariff, tax, bonus, penalty, remuneration indemnity or similar payment.**
- ❑ **When applying laws or regulations or for expert's reports to the court**
- ❑ **To weigh patients for the purpose of monitoring, diagnosis and medical treatment in the practice of medicine.**
- ❑ **To fix a price for direct sale to the public or to make up pre-packages**