

Livestock Auction Scales

Livestock Markets Association of Canada (LMAC) May 2010

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Measurement Canada

Measurement Canada is responsible for ensuring the integrity and accuracy of measurement in the Canadian marketplace.

- develop and administer the laws and requirements governing measurement,
- evaluate, approve and certify measuring devices, and
- investigate complaints of suspected inaccurate measurement.

<http://mc.ic.gc.ca/>

Trade Sector Review

- Livestock & Poultry Sector (2008/09 review)
 - Met with stakeholders in the industry
 - Discuss measurement issues & intervention levels
 - Several issues identified, including
 - Concern about Secondary Displays

Specific Issues

- Secondary Displays (scoreboard)
 - Visibility (*NAWDS 34, 59 & 60*)
 - Weight display ‘Free Floating’ (*NAWDS 18*)
 - Zero Indication (*NAWDS 16, Act 24(b), 33, etc.*)

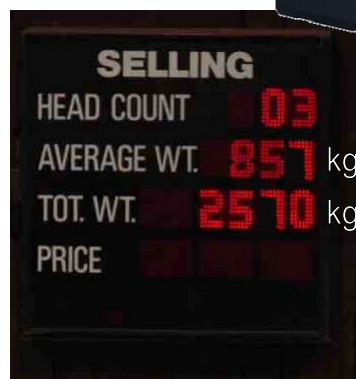
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Scoreboard / Indicator

Secondary Indicators
or Scoreboards



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Agreement?



Primary Indicator

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Legislation

- Livestock Auction Scales
 - *Weights and Measures Act*
 - *Specifications Relating to Non-automatic Weighing Devices (1998)* [NAWDS]

Visibility

- INDICATIONS AND RECORDINGS

NAWDS 34. (1) A weighing device shall be provided with appropriate indicating and recording elements in terms of the design, number and size of digits to permit accurate measurement.

(2) The indications and recordings generated by a weighing device shall be clear, accurate, reliable and easy to read under normal conditions of use of the device.

Visibility

- WEIGHING DEVICES USED FOR DIRECT SALES

NAWDS 59. A weighing device that is used for direct sales shall be positioned so that the indication relating to the measurement and the transaction can be easily read and the weighing operation observed from the normal location of the customer.

SI/2008-81, s. 15.

NAWDS 60. A weighing device shall be installed in a manner that permits the operator of the device to observe the weighing and load-receiving element from the position of the operator reading the weight indications.

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Weight Display

- AGREEMENT OF INDICATIONS AND RECORDINGS

NAWDS 18. The weight values that are indicated or recorded by the indicating and recording elements of a weighing device and any equipment and accessories attached to the weighing device or used in conjunction with it shall agree

a) exactly, in the case of digital values produced by electronic elements, equipment and accessories that have the same verification scale intervals;

b) ...

SI/2008-81, s. 3.

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Zero

- Return to Zero
(Scale must be @ zero before weighing)

NAWDS 16. (1) Under stable environmental conditions, the deviation from zero as soon as the weight indication has stabilized following the removal of a load that has remained on a weighing and load-receiving element for up to 30 minutes shall not exceed:

- a) in the case of a single range weighing device, one half of the verification scale interval;
- b)...

Does this apply to me?

- Livestock are pre-weighed (pre-sort)
 - Weighing takes place prior to the Auction
 - Only one party to the transaction is present
 - May be referred to as “Pre-sort”
 - Weighing takes place in another location, or
 - No weighing takes place
 - **Scoreboards are only required when both parties to the transaction are present**

Does this apply to me?

- Mechanical Scale Indicator (beam or dial)
 - Scoreboard requirements are not applicable to these devices

Does this apply to me?

- Livestock weighed in front of bidders
- Use of electronic Scale Indicator
 - a) Can the customer see the weight display?
 - either primary or secondary indicator (scoreboard)
 - b) Is the display weight 'free floating'?
 - Scoreboard display same as the primary display
- If NO to (a) or (b) above, you are affected

Summary

- **Scale Display (primary or secondary)**
 - **Visibility** (*NAWDS 34, 59 & 60*)
 - Customer must be able to see weight display
 - Secondary Indicator may be required
 - **“Free Floating” weight display** (*NAWDS 18*)
 - Customer display must reflect primary display
 - Continuous and Exact agreement
 - **Zero Indication** (*NAWDS 16, WM Act 24(b), 33, etc.*)
 - Customer indication that scale is at zero
 - Operator must ensure scale is at zero

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Action

- **Developed Information Bulletin** (January 2010)
 - Contacted Auction Associations (LMAC, AAA)
 - Sent to all identified Livestock Auctions (~150)
 - Posted on MC website
- **Visited/contacted several auction houses**
- **LMAC Meeting** (May 2010)
 - Presentation & discussion
- **Next steps...**

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Resolution Methods

- Compliance may be obtained by:
 - Making existing scoreboard “free floating”
 - Adding a second complying scoreboard
 - Adding cameras/monitors as appropriate
 - Others?

Implementation

- New installations must be fully compliant
- Existing Non Compliant installations
 - Must be brought into compliance...
 - No target date established for completion
 - Replacement or modification to existing equipment will necessitate full compliance
 - Issues with a specific site may result in need for immediate correction (substantiated complaint, etc.)
 - Develop a plan for retrofitting as required
 - Discuss action plan with MC
 - Education / Resolution / Enforcement

Questions?



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Vehicle Scale



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POS Scale



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Counter Computing Scale



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