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SMA Positions on the NCWM Specifications and Tolerances Committee Report

95th NCWM Annual Meeting, July, 2010

310 GENERAL CODE

310-1 I G-S.8. Provision for Sealing Electronic Adjustable Components, G-S.8.1. Adjustment Mode Indication, and Definitions for Adjustment and Adjustment Mode.

The SMA opposes this item and recommends that this item be withdrawn.

The SMA believes that the current wording is a step back from previous proposals. The SMA continues to support the recommendation from the 2009 Weighing and Measuring Sectors stating that no change to Handbook 44 is required as the wording of G-S.2 and G-S.8 is sufficient.

310-2 I Appendix D – Definition of Electronic Devices, Software-Based and Built-For-Purpose Device

The SMA opposes this item. There is no longer a technological basis for making this distinction in device types. The SMA supports the recommendation from the March 2010 Software Sector meeting to withdraw this item.

310-3 I G-S.1. Identification – (Software)

The SMA continues to oppose this item as stated in the S&T Committee Report. The SMA appreciates the work of the Software Sector, as stated in the final report from their March 2010 meeting. The proposal from the Software Sector addresses one of the SMA concerns dealing with the use of the term “not built for purpose” however, we still have concerns with the requirement in G-S.1 stating that the software version or revision identifier must be clearly and permanently marked.

The SMA recommends that the Software Sector and the S&T Committee review and correct what appears to be conflicting requirements as stated in G-S.1 and G-S.1.1 dealing with the marking requirement.

310-4 V G-A.6. Nonretroactive Requirements (Remanufactured Equipment)

The SMA supports this item.

320 SCALES CODE

320-1A W S.2.3.4. through S.2.3.7. Value of Tare Indication and Recorded Representations, and Appendix D. Definitions for Gross Weight Value, Net Weight Value, Net Weight, Tare, and Tare Weight Value

The SMA supports the withdrawal of this item.

320-1B W S.2.4. Preset Tare Mechanism and Appendix D – Definitions for Preset Tare

The SMA supports the withdrawal of this item.

320-2 V S.2.1.1. General (Zero) and Appendix D Definitions for Automatic Zero Setting Mechanism and Automatic Zero-Tracking Mechanism

The SMA supports the intent of prohibiting the use of an automatic zero-setting mechanism and proposes that the current recommendation in S.2.1.1. be replaced with the following.

S.2.1.1. General. – A scale shall be equipped with means by which the zero-load balance may be adjusted. Automatic zero adjustment outside the limits of automatic zero-tracking (S.2.1.3) (sometimes referred to as automatic zero setting) is prohibited. Any loose material used for this purpose shall be enclosed so that it can not shift in position and alter the balance condition of the scale.

(Amended 201X)

And

We oppose the removal of the word “automatic” in the term “automatic zero-tracking mechanism”. We believe the removal will lead to confusion in other locations in Handbook 44 and existing inspector training material.

And

The SMA recommends that the definition of “automatic zero-setting mechanism” be changed to read:

Automatic means provided to set the zero balance indication without the intervention of an operator. [2.20, 2.22, 2.24]

(Added 201X)

320-3 V T.N.4.5.1. Time Dependence: Class II, III, and IIII, T.N.4.5.2. Time Dependence: Class III L, and T.N.4.5.3. Zero Load Return: Non-automatic Weighing Instruments.

The SMA supports this item with the following change.

Remove reference to Class I in paragraph T.N.4.5.3 (a)

Rationale:

Class I instruments do not require a time dependence test.

320-4 V UR.2.6. Approaches.

The SMA supports this item.

321 BELT-CONVEYOR SCALE SYSTEMS

321-1 I N.3.1.3. Check for Consistency of the Conveyor Belt Along Its Entire Length

The SMA continues to support the intent of this item and supports the work group recommendation for additional research to determine the appropriate tolerance.

322 AUTOMATIC BULK-WEIGHING SYSTEMS

322-1 V S.2.1. Zero-Load Adjustment

The SMA continues to support this item.

324 AUTOMATIC WEIGHING SYSTEMS

324-1 V S.2.1.3. Automatic Zero-Setting Mechanism

The SMA supports this item.

324-2A W S.2.2.4. Visibility of Operation and S.2.2.5. Subtractive Tare Mechanism

The SMA supports the withdrawal of this item.

324-2B W S.2.2.6. Consecutive Tare Operations and S.2.2.7. Indication and Printing of Weighing Results

The SMA supports the withdrawal of this item.

324-2C W S.2.3. Preset Tare Mechanism and S.2.3.1. Indication of Operation

The SMA supports the withdrawal of this item.

360 OTHER ITEMS

Item 360-2: Developing Items

None!