



ASIA – PACIFIC LEGAL METROLOGY FORUM

Working Group - Goods Packed by Measure

Work Group Report for 2014

Report on the work of OIML Technical Committee 6 (TC6) – Pre-packaged Products.

The meeting of OIML TC 6 *Pre-packaged products* took place in Seoul, Korea 15– 19 September 2014. The meeting was attended by 15 of the 28 permanent members and covered the revision of the documents OIML R79, OIML R87 and the Guide for the Certification of Prepackages.

The following decisions were made:

OIML R79 Revision

1. Committee Draft 5 of the R79 revision had received a positive vote from the majority of P-members. If there were only editorial changes made during the meeting, then it would be submitted to the BIML for registration as a draft publication and forwarded to CIML preliminary ballot.
2. The definition of ‘Principle Display Panel’ within CD5 of R79 is

“The part of a package that is designed to be visible under normal conditions of display for sale.

Note: This is normally the main or front panel of the prepackage and there could be more than one.”

The Technical Committee agreed that both the product identity as well as the quantity declaration shall be displayed on the same panel that should be visible to consumers under normal conditions of display. This is the position that will be presented to CIML members with the vote request.

To be compliant with R79, a manufacturer must design a package so that both the quantity declaration and the product identity are displayed on the same panel. Normally this is the front panel but not always. For example lipstick, may be displayed vertically to the purchaser but there is not enough surface space for this information. Manufacturers do not have control on how the retailer then places the product on the shelf.

3. The Annex in R87, ‘Misleading prepackages (informative)’ is to be relocated within the section Misleading Practices contained in R79 and aligned. This was to remove duplication between the two documents and that R79 covers both random nominal quantities and constant nominal quantities, whereas R87 only covers constant nominal quantities.
4. The final version of R 79 will be submitted to the BIML for registration as a draft publication and then be sent to CIML for preliminary ballot.

OIML R87 Revision

1. Committee Draft 3 of the R87 revision had received a positive vote from the majority of P-members. If there were only editorial changes made during the meeting then it would be submitted to the BIML for registration as a draft publication and forwarded to CIML preliminary ballot.
2. It was resolved to change all references from “manufacturer” to “packer” throughout the document.
3. It was resolved to include a new sub-clause within the “Terminology” section that contains all acronyms and symbols already referenced in the document. The acronyms and symbols in the Annexures will remain.
4. The final document will contain a note detailing the statistical rounding method used. The following was inserted:

A method for rounding a number in which numbers larger than or equal to $[N-0.5]$ and less than $[N+0.5]$ is rounded to N as an integer.
5. It was agreed that Aerosols can be sold by weight or volume or both
6. The meeting resolved to include two updated tables for developing sampling plans.
 - a. Table 1 will be for lot sizes that have a range of values determined at the time of inspection, for example a lots that has between 180 and 599 packages. The table is suitable for a lot sizes smaller than 32 prepackages and will also include the relevant number of prepackages permitted to contain T1 errors. The final document will provide an equation to calculate the sample correction factor.
 - b. Table 2 will reflect lot sizes with discreet batch sizes, i.e. an inspection lot containing 500 packages. The table will also provide the relevant number of prepackages permitted to contain T1 errors and the pre-calculated sample correction factor.

These two tables will replace the existing table in Clause 4.5 and will incorporate the agreed rounding method.

7. Committee Draft 3 of the R87 contains a single stage sampling plan and a multistage sampling plan. New Zealand put forward an additional two-stage sampling plan for consideration. It was agreed that this sampling plan would be included into an OIML guide for ‘Alternative Sampling Methods’ and be published in the OIML bulletin. This would allow R87 to precede to the CIML members for preliminary ballot. New Zealand’s alternative sampling method and any others would then be considered for introduction to R87 when the next revision takes place (5 year revision intervals).

It is intended that the OIML guide for ‘Alternative sampling methods’ be published at the same time as R79 and R87 so they form a suite of resources.

8. The final version of R 87 will be submitted to the BIML for registration as a draft publication and then be sent to CIML for preliminary ballot.

OIML TC6 Project 5 ‘Guidance for Defining the System Requirements for a Certification System for Prepackages’

TC6 has been tasked with developing a ‘Guidance for Defining the System Requirements for a Certification System for Prepackages’ (GCOP).

The purpose of the document is to provide guidance to national authorities on the establishment and maintenance of certification schemes for the control of the quantity of product in prepackages and associated labelling.

This was the first review of Project 5. Each P-member was requested to provide a presentation on how package goods are controlled in their country, especially those countries that operate a certification scheme such as the European ‘E-mark’, Korean ‘K-mark’, Chinese ‘C-mark’ and the Vietnamese ‘V-mark’.

The key objectives of the document is to

1. Establish rules and procedures for fostering confidence that the labelling and content of prepackages comply with all the relevant legal requirements.
2. Promote efficiency of the control of prepackages whilst maintaining confidence in and facilitating trade of prepackaged products.
3. Promote the harmonization, uniform interpretation, and implementation of legal metrology requirements for the quantity of product in prepackages including labelling requirements and of production system requirements.

The guidance document will provide a number of different certification schemes. Each scheme has different elements which a national authority can choose to adopt or not depending on the control they want to maintain.

4.4 Elements for a certification scheme for prepackages

Scheme elements		Different schemes						
		A	B	C	D	E	F	N
4.4.1	Production system assessment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.4.1.1	Statement of requirements							
4.4.1.2	Application for certification							
4.4.1.3	Initial assessment of production system							
4.4.1.4	Review the evidence of compliance							
4.4.2	Certification of the production system	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.4.2.1	Decision on certification							
4.4.2.2	Issuing of a certificate							
4.4.2.3	Registration of certificates							
4.4.3	Licensing			x	x	x	x	
4.4.3.1	Granting the right to use certificates							
4.4.3.2	Granting the right to use marks of conformity							
4.4.4	Post certification conformity assessment activities							
4.4.4.1	Surveillance at point of production			x		x	x	
4.4.4.2	Surveillance in market place				x	x	x	
4.4.4.3	Batch licensing		x				x	
4.4.4.4	Surveillance of the production system			x	x	x	x	
N – has been added to show an undefined number of possible other schemes which can be based on different activities								

Table 1 - Elements for a certification scheme for prepackages

Annex's to this document then provide further detailed information and guidance on the systems documentation, minimum requirements of a certification body, contents of a certificate, design and application of a conformity mark, resolution of complaints and disputes.

The meeting resolved that the secretariat, after amending the document appropriately to reflect all changes requested by members, will forward the document to members as a Committee Draft 2 and request for a formal vote.

The meeting resolved that the GCOP should be published in the "G"-series publications when approved.

Date and place of next meeting

Due to R79 and R87 being sent to the CIML meeting this year for preliminary ballot, it was agreed to wait for the outcome prior to organising any future meeting.