

UKWF President's Update
CECIP General Assembly – 2024

Overview



- UKWF Training Schemes
- UKWF/CTSI Training Collaboration
- Navigating UK regulation post-Brexit











- In September 2023 we held the first UKWF Legal Metrology Certificate Training Course.
 We held another in February 2024 and the third in May 2024.
- Key features of the course:
 - Five day in-person or online course covering 10 modules on legal metrology theory and practice
 - Appropriate for any employee of a UKWF member company who wants to expand their weights and measures skills – whether new to the industry or seeking an update to their existing skills.
 - Offered exclusively to UKWF members at a very competitive rate

We've had really positive feedback from course delegates and member companies.

UKWF Apprenticeship Scheme



- We have continued to plan for our apprenticeship scheme. This is a more complex process, as we need to understand our member companies' intentions to hire apprentices over the coming years, and whether there is strong appetite for this course.
- We are now beginning to design the course content
- We hope to launch this to coincide with the UK's timetables for apprenticeship schemes in 2024.
- **To note:** The UKWF Apprenticeship Scheme will not be an UK-accredited scheme but will be a 'kitemark' of high standard training across the UK and international weighing industry community.

UKWF Training Schemes – Partnering



- We've had a lot of international interest in our training scheme and training plans
- We are working hard to finalise our approach to working with international partners to deliver this training and will be in a position to make more formal arrangements soon.

UKWF and CTSI Collaboration

- In the UK, legal metrology regulation is enforced by local trading standards officers (TSOs). CTSI is the body that represents these officers but is not their employer.
- TSOs have a broad regulatory remit, including all product safety and standards across
 consumer sectors. This leads to competing pressures on their limited resources. UKWF
 members are frustrated by very long time periods between inspections, and lack of expertise
 among trading standards officers who do attend to undertake inspections.
- In October 2023, we launched our new partnership with CTSI offering free 'open day' training sessions for trading standards officers. UKWF member companies have opened their doors to trainees for a morning classroom style training session on the principles of legal metrology and an afternoon practical session where TSOs can handle weights and measures equipment and understand processes in action

These courses have proved incredibly popular, with waiting lists. We will continue to run this programme in 2024/25.





Navigating UK Regulation post-Brexit

- We have spent a significant amount of time supporting members with the UK Government's changing position on UKCA and CE markings.
- The UK has now laid legislation that will see the UK continue to recognise CE markings.
- Lack of consistency on UKCA/CE has caused significant upheaval. We hope the post-Brexit period of uncertainty is coming to an end.
- However, there continue to be uncertainties around Northern Ireland and the Windsor Framework.
- We continue to urge the UK Government to ensure UK legal metrology regulation is harmonised with Europe.







