



October 2023

Latest News from the UK Weighing Federation

A message UKWF President, Charles Pullen

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the UKWF newsletter. We have made real progress over recent months, and it's great to have an opportunity to reflect on this.

As he retires, we also reflect on UKWF Director Steve Hart's significant contribution to our federation and our industry. I've loved working with Steve over the years, and I wish him all the best.

I was proud to see the first UKWF Legal Metrology Training Course take place in September. It was the product of a great deal of hard work and our brilliant trainees gave great feedback. We're looking forward to the next one!

Plans for our apprenticeship scheme also continue apace – and we also launched our CTSI open training days for trading standards officers. I hope this demonstrates the Federation's deep commitment to developing skills and raising standards across our industry.

Ian Turner also deserves special recognition for his commitment over recent months. Not just for the tremendous effort on our training programmes, but also for assisting members to negotiate yet more Brexit uncertainty with the complex changes to UKCA marking requirements.



This kind of inconsistency in Government decision-making is causing real challenges in our industry.

This month we launched our new website, gained press coverage for comments on trading standards capacity issues, and excitingly, are beginning to develop our international weighing industry networks. What a fantastic few months, and there's more to come!

Thanking Steve Hart for his outstanding contribution

One of our longest serving Directors, Steve Hart, has let us know that he will be retiring from the UKWF Board.

There are few people who have contributed as much to the success of the UKWF than Steve, and we want to take this opportunity to both thank him for his service and reflect upon his time with the Federation.



Before the UKWF came into existence, three regional trade associations who represented our sector since the 1890s worked together within the National Federation of Scale & Weighing Machine Manufacturers. Steve was a committee member of the London Association and was instrumental in the decision to formally merge these local associations in 1993 to form the UK Weighing Federation. Alongside Richard Herbert and Derek Christie, he was one of the founder directors of the current UKWF Ltd company which was incorporated in December 2000.

Steve took on the role of UKWF President in 1998 - the first president of the unified UK Weighing Federation. He has served on the UKWF Board since that time, putting his industry knowledge to use to and volunteering to give back to the industry ensure that members of the Federation were well served. At all times in his tenure as director, he has lobbied for the UKWF to be as inclusive as possible believing that encouraging companies to have higher standards is the way forward. He remembers the days back in the early years of the UKWF, when the directors were able to get appointments to speak directly to government ministers to try and influence policy. Steve was always an enthusiastic attendee of the CECIP General Assemblies, and made many friends within the European scale trade.

Steve is a valued Member of the Board and his contribution over the past 25 years has been outstanding. He will be much missed from the Board discussions. The Board and the UKWF members extend their thanks and wishes for a happy retirement. A gift has been sent on behalf of the UKWF.



What does Net Zero mean for the UK weighing industry?

At our Regional Meeting earlier this month, Helena Robinson from GAMBICA presented on Net Zero and carbon reporting requirements and how they might begin to impact businesses like ours in future.

What is the Government's Net Zero Commitment?

The UK's Climate Change Act commits the Government to reducing greenhouse gas (including carbon) emissions by at least 100% of 1990 levels by 2050 - known as the Net Zero commitment. To help meet this target, the following commitments have been made:

- generate all electricity from clean sources by 2035
- ban new petrol and diesel cars from 2030 (extended to 2035 in 2023)
- install 600,000 heat pumps a year by 2028 (extended to 2035 in 2023)
- use carbon capture to remove between 20 and 30 million tonnes of CO₂ a year by 2030

Despite these pledges, the Government is not on track to achieve Net Zero by 2050. In addition to these targets, the Government also has an expectation that eventually all UK industry should seek to reduce emissions.

What is carbon reporting and why do we need to know about it?

Carbon reporting is the practice of calculating your business' carbon emissions. It is widely understood to be a first step in achieving emissions reductions in business and industry, as once companies understand their emissions, they can consider how to reduce them. While SMEs like the majority of our members are not required by law to do this at present, there is evidence that public bodies and large businesses are beginning to require this information to be included in tendering processes. For example, the NHS currently requires all tenders over the value of £5m to include carbon emissions reports. It is likely that this practice will become routine for many organisations, regardless of contract value.

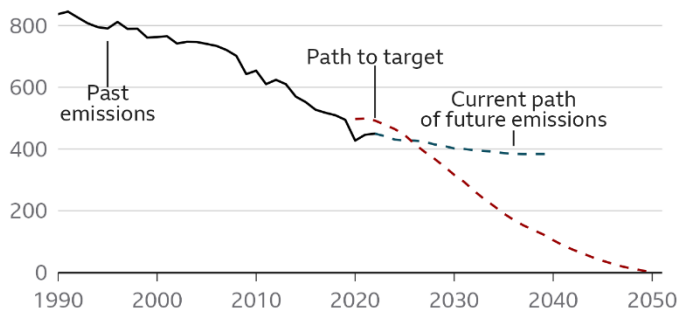
Where can I get support with this?

If you're interested in understanding more about carbon reporting and how you might make your calculations, GAMBICA is offering all UKWF an annual carbon report via its new Environmental Impact Survey, for a fee of £150. For more information, please visit: [GAMBICA | Sustainability](#)

There are alternative ways of all businesses accessing support to make their calculations, including your Local Authority and charity and private suppliers.

UK will miss targets without stronger action

Megatonnes of CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions per year



Emissions data for 2022 is provisional. Future emissions could be higher or lower. Past and future emissions from UK gov, target path from Climate Change Committee. Includes international aviation and shipping bunkers.

Source: Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, CCC

Fulfilling our commitment to skills and training

As our members will know, the UKWF is fully committed to raising skills standards within our industry. We were therefore thrilled when, in September, a group of UKWF member employees completed our first ever UKWF Legal Metrology Certificate Training Course and advanced plans for our apprenticeship scheme.

Running our first UKWF Legal Metrology Certificate Course!

Seven in-person delegates and nine online delegates completed the Legal Metrology Certificate training course in September. And all 16 passed! Huge thanks go to Ian Turner and Jeremy Sage for their dedication in devising and delivering this course. We had some really positive feedback from delegates on what worked well during the course, and we also listened carefully to points for improvement, which will inform how we might perfect it for next time. Plans are now in motion for the next course to take place in Q1 of 2024. If you would like more information, or to put on the list of those waiting to sign up, please contact Chris Goodacre at admin@ukwf.org.uk



Planning for the UKWF Apprenticeship Scheme

We're continuing to develop our UK Legal Metrology Apprenticeship Scheme, and you will have recently received a survey about your plans for apprentices this year. The information you provide will really help us plan for the scheme – please do fill this out if you can. The survey is available here: [UKWF Apprentices Training \(office.com\)](https://www.ukwf.org.uk/UKWF-Apprentices-Training-office.com) We'll keep you updated as our work progresses!

Thinking beyond our industry

The UKWF also identified a gap in skills training that was not directly within our industry but had a big impact on it – the lack of opportunity to gain practical experience of our equipment for trainee inspectors of weights and measures. Last month, at our member company Bizerba, we held the first training open day for Trading Standards Officers, in partnership with CTSI. There are many more to come, and we've had great feedback from trading standards delegates.



An update from our UKWF Technical Officer, Ian Turner



Every update, I seem to begin by saying what a busy period we've had – and this time is no exception. The principal reason for this is the UK Government's significant announcement that it has decided that it will continue to accept CE markings as well as UKCA markings after December 2024, in a reversal of its previous post-Brexit decision. I know how incredibly frustrating this is for our members, many of whom I know have made significant investment in preparation, and it's been important for me to get to grips with the implications of this for our industry.

If this policy change goes through, we can assume that CE markings and the associated conformity procedures will be accepted in the GB for placing products onto market or into service for the first time. It's very important to note, however, that for requalification, a UK approved body must issue the certification.

I've recently also received some important clarification from OPS&S regarding Module D re-verifications. It does now appear that the authority to undertake re-qualifications must be clearly listed on your certificate issued by the approved body. You must also be given a unique number identifying your business. If you need any more information on this or any other technical issue, please do contact me.

To finish on a more upbeat note, I can't tell you how rewarding it's been to be involved in the delivery of the Legal Metrology Certification Training Course, and the Trading Standards Open Days. There's much to be positive about in our industry and I'm glad to see us not only continue to face the complex post-Brexit regulatory environment head on, but also to continue to invest in our industry, our skills and our people.

Don't forget to check out my latest Vlog!

Every month I record a short video blog with some of the key technical updates to accompany the usual monthly email activity report.

You can find my video blogs on the members section of the UKWF website.

Date for your Diary

Ian's next Technical Webinar will be taking place on 15th November 2023 at 10am. The subject will be "Regulated Purposes and re-qualification; what weighing instruments are controlled and who can re-qualify them".

A new website for UKWF!



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The voice of the

UK Weighing Industry

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We've now launched the new UKWF website – at www.ukwf.org.uk! We hope you'll agree that it not only presents a more professional and modern public face for the Federation, but that it is also smoother for our members to navigate and find what they need.

We're particularly proud of the new Member Search functionality, which makes it much easier for potential customers to find the right UKWF member to work with and showcases their expertise immediately.

Please do have a look at the site – your existing log in details will still give you access to the member section. While it's fully launched and functional, we know there's always room for improvement, so if there are suggested changes you have, please do email our Comms Officer, Katie Begg on comms@ukwf.org.uk

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An update on our partnerships.....

At UKWF, we know that our voice is stronger when we work in partnership with organisations that share our aims or can support us to achieve them. Over the past couple of months, we have expanded and formalised our network of partner organisations, which afford benefits both for UKWF as a whole and for our members...



Our partnership with GAMBICA gives us access to information and support on a great number of technical and policy development both in the UK and EU. UKWF members can receive discounts on paid for events, hosted by GAMBICA. GAMBICA also offers our members access to their Environmental Impact Survey for a £150 fee.



Make UK British manufacturing and manufacturers. Our new affiliate partnership means the UKWF, and our member companies, will be able to access Make UK's insight, information, webinars, events and much more. We'll also be adding our voice to Make UK's work to address the challenges faced by the UK manufacturing sectors.



In August, we made our ongoing and constructive partnership with the Chartered Institute of Trading Standards a more formal arrangement by joining as a Corporate Affiliate Member. Our members will know we're already working closely with CTSI to deliver our training open day programme for trading standards officers. We're also working with them to develop a new policy report highlighting the importance of maintaining high standards in legal metrology for consumers and businesses alike. We hope this next stage of our developing relationship will unlock even more benefits both for our organisation and for our members and we'll continue to provide regular updates.