

UK WEIGHING FEDERATION
PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes of a meeting of the Regional Meeting, held on Thursday, 6th October 2022 at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon, UK

Present:	Graham Spink	AWM Ltd	President
	Adam Huggins	Accuweigh Limited	
	Paul Hatton	Accuweigh Limited	
	John Treacy	Applied Weighing Group	
	Martin Lister	Applied Weighing Group	
	Kevin Cartwright	Avery Berkel	
	Jim Cameron	Avery Weigh-Tronix	
	Nikki Meakins	AWM Ltd	
	James Hobbs	AWM Ltd	
	Keith Gresham	Axle Weight Technology Ltd (AXTEC)	
	Charles Pullen	Bizerba (UK) Ltd	
	Paul Hodgkinson	County Scales Limited	
	Tom Marren	Coventry Scale Company Ltd	
	David Weeks	Flintec UK Limited	
	Steve Hart	Flintec UK Limited	
	Richard Herbert	Herbert Group Ltd	
	Steve Milling	Marco Ltd	
	Andrew Goddard	Marel GB Limited	
	Mark Holdaway	Marsden Weighing Machine Group Ltd	
	Mark Clifford	Minebea Intec UK Limited	
	Laurence Greene	MK Scales Ltd	
	Kelvin Cooper	MWS Ltd	
	Sam Jones	Ohaus Europe GmbH	
	Tim Watson	Ohaus Europe GmbH	
	Lucy Bennett-Poole	Positive Weighing Solutions Ltd	
	Tony Bennett-Poole	Positive Weighing Solutions Ltd	
	Guy Thompson	Precia-Molen UK Ltd	
	Derek Johnstone	Precia-Molen UK Ltd	
	Sean Casey	Weighing Technology Services Ltd	
	Martin Murtagh	Weighing Technology Services Ltd	
	Nick Catt	Weightron Bilanciai Ltd	
	Nick Burley	Weightron Bilanciai Ltd	

Speakers & Guests

Adam Thompson	Thompson Insurance
Tony Goodman	Total weighing Solutions
Samantha Sullivan	Total Weighing Solutions
Paul Moody	UK Metrology Board
Chris Goodacre	UKWF Admin
Ian Turner	UKWF Technical
Grace Marren	UKWF Comms

GS welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the general housekeeping points

Apologies

Apologies had been received from 5 people as follows:

Marina Campbell

Chris Buck

Brian Oyangi

Roy Taylor

Phil Webb

1. President's comments

Thanks to everyone for coming today, it's great to see so many of our members here. We have a packed agenda this afternoon and I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone.

While it seems like just a few weeks ago that we met at the AGM, it's been a busy six months for the UKWF as we've navigated our way through constant government changes to legislation, dealt with the impact of the NMO closing its doors in April, and responded to news of reintroducing Imperial Measurements. The UKWF team has worked closely with BEIS and OPS&S over the last six months, to ensure we are able to provide you, our members, with updated information about all of these topics in a timely manner. Ian will provide a comprehensive overview of the latest changes in his technical update shortly.

In addition to our lobbying work, the UKWF board has also focused its efforts on driving forward the set of priorities that we outlined at the last meeting. Those priorities are to:

- Grow the UKWF membership, create member benefits, and maximise on our partnerships
- Push forward with the apprenticeship scheme
- Build better relations with CTSI and local trading standards
- Continue to lobby for industry change with OPS&S
- And revamp the UKWF website

All these focus areas are progressing well. Back in July Ian, Richard, and Grace met with John Herriman, CEO of CTSI, where they identified lots of opportunities for the UKWF and CTSI to work better together. Also, today, you'll hear from Kevin Cartwright with an update on the apprenticeship scheme, and we will have an extended round table discussion session to gather some of your thoughts on topics such as existing partnerships and lobbying priorities. I'm really pleased with the work that is happening here and I look forward to seeing the positive change they collectively bring for our industry and membership.

We also have a guest speaker this afternoon - Adam Thompson from Thompson Insurance Brokers. Welcome Adam, thank you for coming along today and look forward to hearing from you later.

New independent approved body

As we mentioned at the AGM, we've taken the opportunity to create a new CAB company that will not only meet the needs of UKWF members, but also other manufacturers that may require this service. The new approved body called UKMB, is now fully set up as a separate legal entity, independent of the UKWF, with its own management structure and team. Paul Moody is here today and will be providing a full update on the progress of UKMB.

CECIP

We continue to work closely with CECIP, and it was great to be able to host their General Meeting back in June in London. The UK's exit from the European Union makes the UKWF and CECIP's relationship even more vital as we work together to share policies and best practice across our continent. We may have left the EU, but we are still a part of Europe and it's important we work with them to drive change across our industry.

CECIP has just launched its new 'Weighing you can trust' campaign. This campaign focusses on quality weighing equipment and the value of using the right partner when buying and maintaining weighing instruments. The UKWF will be supporting this campaign on social media and if you're on Twitter or LinkedIn then we'd encourage you to do the same.

CECIP is also carrying out some market research to help them understand the current status of the weighing industry market. They have created a survey and more details about this is on the members section of our website.

Next year it's the International Conference of Weighing which is a three-day conference organised by a partnership of weighing industry associations from all over the world and international organisations OIML and BIPM. It will take place from 24 to 26 April 2023 in Hamburg. This is a key event for our industry as it will bring together researchers, industry, and authorities from all over the world. During the three days there will be a number of presentations on state-of-the-art developments regarding scientific, legal and applied metrology. Moreover, it is an excellent opportunity to meet relevant stakeholders from all over the world. The focus of the first edition is '*Weighing in a global digital world*'.

There are lots of opportunities to attend and even sponsor the event so please take a look at the website, it would be great to have UKWF members companies there.

So, I think it's time to get on with the afternoon but before I go, I would like to thank the UKWF team and board for all of their work that has helped get the UKWF into the great shape it is today. We will continue to work hard to promote and further improve our Federation. I have always believed that creating a strong united voice and combining our talents is key to having a solid Federation. If you would like to be involved, please do contact me and we can work together to benefit all our members and the wider weighing industry.

There were no questions following this presentation.

2.

Presentation: Ian Turner UKWF technical officer – Technical Update

Ian gave his presentation which is attached to these minutes.

The following questions were asked:

Graham Spink – AWM

If you have a CE mark on an instrument and you put a UKCA mark on as well, is this legal?

Ian advised that this is legal.

Keith Gresham - AXTEC

Can you put a UKCA mark and CE mark on it if you don't know where it is going to be sold?

This is known as Dual marking. You would need to have 2 separate sets of marking:

UKCA Mark followed by M followed by Approved Body number

CE Mark followed by M followed by Notified Body number

There are many pitfalls with this and Ian would advise members to generally only do one or the other.

Nick Catt, Weightron Bilanciai

What about ATEX directives certificates.

Ian understands that for ATEX, EU27 certificates can be used until 2027, but we will ask Geoff Botterill our ATEX specialist for confirmation and advise members.

Ian advised members that it is likely that you will need to have a GB approval at some time in the future, it is unlikely that this will need to be before 2027.

NI – Ian's advice would be to use EU approval for NI

Nikki Meekins – AWM

If my Cert expires in 2023 can I use this at a later stage.

Ian advised – renew it before the end of the year and then you can use this until 2027

Derek Johnson, Precia Molen

If we do a rev 3 but machine was placed on Market under rev 2 what happens?

If placed on the market under rev 2 then would need requalifying under Rev 2.

Would I place the revision numbers on the Type Approval?

Appropriate references should be put on TA cert.

Lucy Bennett-Poole

TSi open days – what would be involved?

Ian would like to have members that would offer open days and these could be uploaded onto CTSi website

Martin Lister – we have been approached by Derbyshire

Others have also been approached, but we wanted to present the UKWF as a competent authority.

It will help break down the barrier with TS and will help us in the longer term with TSO's who understand Legal Metrology.

We will develop what will actually be offered on the day

Survey members with types of weighing they cover and if they are willing to participate.

It would be about gaining the confidence of TSO's.

Nick Catt, Weightron Bilianciai

Has heard that LNE are wanting to put timeframe on expiry of test certificates.

This is in fact a WELMEC instigated measure and it will be happening. It is likely that when it comes into play they will have a 10 year expiry. If you have the same item with the same certificate and same files it will be renewed without inspection so it is largely a paperwork exercise.

Biggest problem will be UK certificates.

Communications update – Grace Marren, UKWF Comms Officer

Grace gave her Communications Update presentation which is attached to these minutes.

3.

There were no questions from the members.

Graham thanked Grace for all of her hard work over the past 2 years implementing the federation's comms strategy that has raised the profile of the UKWF and has helped the board to create a strong united voice.

Grace has advised the board this morning that she will be leaving at the end of the year to pursue a slightly different path. We wish her good luck in the future, and would like to present her with this small gift.

UKMB presentation - Paul Moody, Director of UK Metrology Board

Paul gave his presentation which is attached to these minutes.

4.

There were no questions from the members.

Graham advised that this is a serious investment for the UKWF and Paul has been doing a great job in setting things up so far. Paul reports to the board as shareholders and going forward the updates on UKMB will be given by the Board to keep you informed on the relevant progress.

Thompson Insurance presentation – Adam Thompson, Director of Thompson Insurance

Adam gave his presentation which is attached to these minutes.

5.

The following questions were asked:

Apprenticeship Presentation – Kevin Cartwright UKWF Director

Kevin gave his presentation which is attached to these minutes.

6.

The following questions were asked:

Sean Casey –

Is there an option to do training but not as an apprentice

This is something that we have been discussing as a board and we would look to do for UKWF members' staff

Also could offer this in the future to CTSi

Richard Herbert, Herbert Group

If we have an apprentice that lives in Scotland but you are an English company, what scheme is

Funding for the apprenticeship comes from their postcode

The apprentice scheme would also depend on how long they are spending working in England or Scotland etc.

16-18 Fully funded

18+ partially funded

James Hobbs, AWM

At end of process they will have 2 quals, one mech or electrical apprenticeship recognised nationally and the UKWF diploma recognised by the industry.

That is exactly what we are proposing.

Surely an electronic engineering apprentice is worth more outside of the LM sector, so they could be lured away.

That will be the case – but each member would choose which apprenticeship to put their apprentice through. Level 2 Electronics engineering is very different to level 3 which would be overkill.

Andy Goddard, Marel

Can you get the LM UKWF module recognised

Possible but this may be really costly.

Round table discussion on issues for the industry

- Apprenticeship course content
- 7. - Gambica membership benefits
- Concerns over legislative changes
- Lobbying priorities
- Manufacturers open days for Trading Standards personnel

Round Table Discussions table summaries:

Apprenticeship

Businesses have had very mixed experiences with taking on apprenticeships. Fundamentally it is about assisting members to attract people into the industry and this is the first step in the process.

Positive feedback for this. Looking to see details of content for the modules. Happy for this to go forward.

If we are starting Sept 23 info has to be available way before that date.

Interested to see costs and whether this will be available to Non UKWF companies and will there be a benefit to members (less cost)

Kevin advised that we have to get the apprentices onboard and we would have extra time to decide what goes into the diploma.

Whether there could be a challenge to using the name “diploma”

Do we need an apprenticeship course at all or could we just do a training course?

Both options – apprenticeships plus diploma and diploma course only are valuable to members. Some things will be more applicable to some businesses.

Can UKWF produce a video on why it is a good idea to be an apprentice in the weighing industry. This is feasible and if we can have 2 or 3 apprentices that we could film and interview we could get this done. Need to keep it generic

Could use existing engineers working on equipment. Find engineers that could talk about the industry more broadly.

Gambica

Were we getting value for money? They maybe want more information from us but members found it difficult to access this information on our website as it is difficult to navigate the site. We had so much information that we decided to put it on the web and

Attractive in principle but no one had used it.

Make UK could be a better match.

Original benefits were more relevant and the resources they provide are broader industry topics.

Most table agreed.

If there was an issue we would go directly to OPS&S

Legislative/ Lobbying

Concern over the amount of changes and we need to provide clarity

Government just do not really know what they are doing

Imperial measures could have a big impact.

Is anyone listening to lobbying as they don't have the relevant knowledge.

UKWF are not taken seriously by OPS&S – we have many meetings and the outcomes are not necessarily acted upon.

We are attempting to give them our opinion.

Everytime the government people change, we have to start all over again.

Revocation of the EU rules – what will replace them?

Incompetency around certification and U turns. Gov are responsible for the wasted time and costs for members we need to advise them of our dissatisfaction.

Trading Standards Open days

All already have good relationships but this would be supported. Positive feedback

More relatability with trading standards

Would like to see TSO trained up well to ease any issues.

More inspection and more market surveillance would be preferable.

Relationship that allows UKWF members to have some sort of preferential treatment from TSO and Market surveillance to be done mainly on non UKWF members.

The situation regarding relationships with TSO's seems to have improved.

Most TSO are sensible and flexible but some are not. If we open members up to TSO's they could pick up non conformities.

This should be the UKWF managing the process with TSO's to save members being caught up in

Where there are only one or two companies doing a certain equipment it would be better handled centrally by UKWF.

8. Meeting Ends

GS thanked everyone for attending and for their input, and said he looks forward to seeing everyone at the AGM in York