

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICE

Reference : WMO-030524-04
Date : 03 May 2024
To : Owners of weighing and measuring instruments used for trade
Subject : Alteration of weighing and measuring instruments

The Weights and Measures Office ('WMO') administers the Weights and Measures Act ('the Act'), which regulates weighing and measuring instruments, as well as the net quantity stated on pre-packaged goods. Under the Act, weighing and measuring instruments used for trade must be registered in accordance to international standards, verified for accuracy, and affixed with the ACCURACY Label. The WMO conducts inspections and investigations to ensure fair trade measurement practices are upheld.

2 During a recent inspection at a scrap metal and recycling company, the WMO detected weighing instruments that have been altered and tampered with. External devices with the capability to alter the weight displayed on the indicator and rendering the readings false, were found installed on these instruments.

3 Under Section 11 subsection 1(d) of the Act, any person who alters a weighing or measuring instrument used for trade after it has been affixed with a stamp or an Accuracy Label to make it false or unjust is guilty of an offence. The contravention of Section 11(1) of the Act is punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding \$5,000/- or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months, or both. All instruments involved in the offence are also liable to be forfeited.

4 The company mentioned above was consequently fined for contravening Section 11(1)(d) of the Act and the instruments were forfeited. The WMO takes a serious view of any offence and will not hesitate to take strong action in respect of any breaches under the Act. Egregious cases may be referred to the Police for further action.

5 We strongly urge all industry operators to ensure compliance with the Act, and to report any suspected alterations to weighing or measuring instruments used for trade, or such fraudulent practices to the WMO.

6 For further enquiries, please contact the WMO at 6898 1800 or email to weightsandmeasures@enterprisesg.gov.sg.

Issued by:

The Weights and Measures Office

This is a computer-generated circular and no signature is required.