



Notification Number: 2006/302/UK

The Measuring Instruments (Gas Meters) Regulations 2006

Date received : 23/06/2006

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Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2006) D/51423

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan : 2006/0302/UK.

No abre el plazo - Nezaahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist.

(MSG: 200601423.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2006 0302 UK EN 25-09-2006 23-06-2006 UK NOTIF 25-09-2006

2. Member State

United Kingdom

3. Department Responsible

Department of Trade and Industry: Standards and Technical Regulations Directorate

3. Originating Department

Department of Trade and Industry, Energy Group

4. Notification Number

2006/0302/UK – I10

5. Title

The Measuring Instruments (Gas Meters) Regulations 2006



6. Products Concerned

Gas meters i.e. instruments designed to measure, memorise and display the quantity of fuel gas (volume or mass) that has passed. (Insert indication of products and/or services covered by the draft regulation)

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The draft Regulations implement the Measuring Instruments Directive (2004/22/EC) (the "Directive"), in relation to gas meters and impose requirements of the Directive for meters when placed onto the market and put into use for the first time. This includes; compliance with essential requirements, conformity assessment procedures, designation of notified bodies, marking and identification requirements, enforcement including powers of enforcement authorities, offences and penalties and adaptations for Northern Ireland.

In addition, the draft Regulations set in-service standards for regulation of meters, conforming to the Directive, when in use in the UK. This is achieved by applying the relevant requirements of the Directive for maximum permissible errors (section 2 of MI-003) and the related durability requirements (section 4 of MI-003) to gas meters when operating in-service. This ensures that only meters continuing to comply with requirements of the Directive are permitted to remain in-service and hence consumer protection is maintained. This approach to in-service control is achieved by applying provisions similar to those already existing in domestic legislation (Gas Act 1986 sets out the existing regime for control of in-service meters).

A notification (reference 2005/0731/UK) was previously submitted on 22 December 2005 to cover this matter. The earlier draft regulations took no account of durability requirements. The current draft regulations, revised following public consultation, reflect MID durability requirements in the in-service control provisions. As such, the previous notification is withdrawn and replaced by this submission.

The practical effect of this change is that Class 1.5 meters shall be permitted to continue to operate in-service when the relevant maximum permissible error of the instrument does not exceed twice that stated in paragraph 2.1 of MI-002 of the Directive.

It should be noted that the provisions of the Directive are being implemented in full. For the avoidance of doubt performance standards from the Directive are carried forward into the national provisions with no tightening of standards or additional requirements imposed for the UK market.

Keywords: Gas; Meters; in-service; testing.

The UK will fulfil its obligation under Article 12 of Directive 98/34/EC when these Regulations are officially published.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

To bring meters approved under the provisions set by the Directive within the existing domestic framework for control of in-service meters subject to pre Directive procedures and to adopt in the domestic in-service framework the maximum permissible errors and durability requirements prescribed by the Directive. The Directive only places requirements for measuring instruments for placing on the market and putting into use for the first time. The additional national provisions provide for furtherance of consumer protection for meters in service that were originally subject to conformance procedures under the Directive. The intent of these national



provisions will ensure:

- appropriate metrological performance standards are in place for meters once in use – instruments failing to maintain required standards will no longer be permitted for use for trade;
- the standards used under the Directive are maintained for meters when subject to repair; and
- consumers, using meters, subject to conformity assessment procedures under the Directive, are entitled to have instruments examined by a “meter examiner” to certify whether performance standards are met when accuracy is disputed.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

- a) Gas Act 1986, section 17
Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, article 22
Gas (Meters) Regulations 1983, regulations 2, 3 and 4
- b) 2005/0731/UK

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

The impact assessment is attached.

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT Aspect

No

The draft does not have a significant effect on international trade.

SPS Aspect

No

The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure in the sense of Annex A of the SPS Agreement.

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