

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Department of Agriculture

www.ag.state.co.us

700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000

Lakewood, CO 80215-8000

(303) 239-4100

(303) 239-4125 FAX



Bill Owens, Governor

Don Ament, Commissioner

Sheldon R. Jones, Deputy Commissioner

Inspection and Consumer Services Division

Measurement Standards Section

www.ag.state.co.us/ics/Measurement/Index.html

3125 Wyandot St

Denver, CO 80211

(303) 477-4220

(303) 477-4248 FAX

Date: November 15, 2005

To: All Interested Parties

Subject: Commercial Weighing on Static Railway Scales

The Colorado Measurement Standards Act (MSA), 35-14 CRS, requires that commercial static weighing of railway cars must be conducted in an accurate manner.

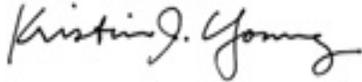
Section 105 of the MSA states that the specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements for commercial weighing and measuring devices adopted by the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM) and published in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44 apply to weighing and measuring devices in this state. A Certificate of Conformance (CC) from the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) is required prior to commercial use of a device.

During an NTEP device evaluation the performance, operating characteristics, features and options of a scale are tested against applicable standards. If the scale passes the evaluation and testing process a CC is issued, indicating that Handbook 44 requirements are met. Multi-draft weighing is not tested during NTEP evaluation of railroad scales used for static weighing; therefore multi-draft commercial weighing over such a scale is not suitable with respect to its use as tested.

Any new installation of commercially used static railway track scales in Colorado after November 15, 2005 shall be constructed so that all railroad cars are weighed as a single draft. All wheels of a railroad car must rest on a single device during a given weighment. For the purposes of this policy, a single platform or two weighbridge platforms separated by a section of track with one readout may be considered a single device.

For static railway scales installed after Colorado adopted NTEP requirements July 1, 1995, it shall be a violation of the Colorado Measurement Standards Act for any person to commercially weigh railway cars using more than a single draft. Such violations are subject to civil penalties and fines up to \$750.00 per day.

Users of commercial railway track scales should be aware of possible additional design and installation requirements, in addition to those in Handbook 44. See User Requirement UR.1, footnote 4 in the Scales Code portion of Handbook 44.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin J. Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'Y'.

Kristin J Young
Section Chief