



National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) Informational Handout

What is NTEP?

The National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) is an evaluation program administered by the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM). Type evaluation is the process whereby weighing and measuring devices are examined to determine if the performance, operating characteristics, features and options of a particular device comply with the requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44.

When was NTEP established?

NCWM, in conjunction with industry and weights and measures officials, established a Task Force to develop NTEP in 1976. NTEP was later established in 1984 and is a cooperative program among manufacturers, users, and weights and measures officials.

Why was it established?

The purpose of NTEP was to establish a uniform set of criteria and test procedures for the evaluation of commercial weighing and measuring devices. Before the adoption of NTEP there were 16 different type approval agencies in the United States. With the establishment of NTEP, a single evaluation is recognized in all states. NTEP

- provides a uniform consistent evaluation for commercial weighing and measuring devices.
- reduces cost and time in getting a commercial weighing or measuring device to market.
- reduces the burden on state type approval programs.

An NTEP evaluation is a rigorous evaluation of the device's conformance to the NIST Handbook 44's specifications and tolerances over the entire measuring range of the device. The majority of the 50 states require an NTEP Certificate of Conformance (CC) for any device used commercially in their state. Any device manufactured after 2003 must have the NTEP CC # on the label of the device itself. (for example: CC 00-000, NTEP 00-000, or Approval 00-000. Always a five digit number.

Is Oregon an NTEP state?

Yes, all devices put into commercial service in the state of Oregon after August 1990 must have an NTEP CC or meet the exceptions of OAR 603-027-0640(2)(d). Oregon weights and measures officials will verify that the specific model of the device placed into commercial service is covered by the NTEP CC and that its set up is consistent with the CC before approving the device for commercial use. Devices not meeting these requirements will be ordered out of service.

Where can I find NTEP CC's?

All CC's are available on the NCWM website at http://www.ncwm.net/ntep/cert_search. When you are evaluating the purchase of a commercial measuring device be sure to ask the seller to provide you with the device's NTEP CC and verify that it applies to the device you plan to purchase. If you have questions as to a specific device's status as an NTEP device please contact Oregon Weights and Measures.

For more information contact the Weights and Measures Program by phone 503-986-4670, fax 503-986-4784, email msd-info@oda.state.or.us, or visit our website

<http://oregon.gov/ODA/programs/ISCP/WeightsMeasures>

