



OIML/APLMF Training Course on Pre-Packaged Goods

Presented by: **Phil Sorrell,
Davis White &
Dr. Hans-Peter Vaterlous**

**Prepackaged Goods
Nanning, China
10-13 April 2018**



OIML RECOMMENDATION R79

Labelling requirements for prepackages

Prepackaged Goods
Nanning, China
10-13 April 2018



OIML R79

- Edition 2015 (E)
- Developed by Project Group 2 of the Technical Committee 6
- Supersedes previous Edition 1997



Prepackaged Goods
Nanning, China
10-13 April 2018



OIML R79

Sections:

- Scope
- Terminology
- Identity of the product
- Declaration of responsibility for a prepackage
- Quantity declarations
- Misleading practices



OIML R 79

- Annex A – Units of Measurement and Symbols (Mandatory)
- Annex B – Type size of letters and numerals for quantity declarations on prepackages (Informative)
- Annex C – Suggested methods of indicating the quantity on prepackages (Informative)



OIML R 79

Scope

This Recommendation applies to prepackages with

- **constant nominal quantity**, and
- **random nominal quantities**,

which are prepackaged and bear a quantity declaration



OIML R 79

Not covered by OIML R79

- Other information, claims and declarations made in relation to health, safety, tax, ingredients, nutrition, dates limits, storage
- National regulations may specifically include exceptions to the Recommendation
- Non prepackaged goods, i.e. goods packed in front of the consumer



OIML R 79

Terminology

1. Label
2. Medium
3. Misleading package
4. Net quantity
5. Nominal quantity
6. Packing material
7. Prepackage
8. Prepackage marked with constant nominal quantities
9. Prepackage marked with variable nominal quantities
10. Principle display panel
11. Product



OIML R 79

Terminology

Label

Includes any:

- Written, printed or graphic matter
- Affixed to, applied to, attached to, blown into, formed or moulded into, embossed on or appearing upon
- A prepackage containing any product for purposes of: branding, identifying, or giving any information about the product, or the contents of the package



OIML R 79

Terminology

Medium

- Fluid that is put in the prepackage together with the product, either separated from, in or surrounding the product, and that is intended to be left over after use of the product, except for items naturally in the product
- Other non-promotional text appearing on a product
- Shall not be deemed to be a label requiring the prescribed label information



OIML R 79

Terminology

Misleading prepackage

- A prepackage that is made, formed, presented, marked or filled in any way that may **mislead** a consumer about the quantity of product that it contains



OIML R 79

Terminology

Net quantity

- The quantity of product in the prepackage exclusive of any packaging material

Nominal quantity

- The quantity of product in a prepackage declared on the label



OIML R 79

Terminology

Packing material

- **Everything** of the prepackage that is intended to be **left over after use** of the product, except for items naturally in the product



OIML R 79

Terminology

Prepackage

- A single item that is:
 - Complete (includes both a **product** and **packing material**)
 - Made up in advance (**outwith** the **presence** of the consumer)
 - Has a **predetermined** quantity (constant or variable), and
 - Is **fully** or **partially** enclosed in packing material



OIML R 79

Terminology





OIML R 79

Terminology

Prepackaged marked with constant nominal quantity

- A prepackage on which the same nominal quantity is declared
- This type of prepackage is controlled by R 87



OIML R 79

Terminology

Prepackaged marked with random nominal quantities

- A prepackage individually measured and marked with its actual quantity at the time of packing
- Also known as “catch weight” goods or “unequal” products

Terminology

Principal display panel

- The part of a prepackage That is designed to be **visible** under normal conditions of display for sale
- Can form as part of the label





OIML R 79

Extra Terminology

Consumer/Non-consumer

The difference between the person who is buying the goods to consume and any person involved in the supply chain who may affect the quantity of the prepackage before it is presented for sale

Person

Both singular and plural including:

- Individuals, partnerships, corporations, companies, societies, and associations



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

A prepackage requires the following information:

- Identity of the product
- Name and place of business
- Net quantity

OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

The identity of the product must be:

- Marked on the principal display panel, and
- Is it conspicuous marked and can be easily read and understood
- Consider the type size, font, colour, contrast to background, position





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

The identity of the product can be:

- Name required by law
- Chemicals
 - e.g. bleach
- The common, or usual name of the product
 - e.g. dumplings, spring rolls, Udon noodles
- The generic name or other appropriately descriptive term.
 - e.g. sticky tape



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Declaration of responsibility for a prepackage

- The **name** and complete **physical address** of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter or vendor **responsible** for the prepackage shall be declared on any surface
- In such type size, font, colour, contrast with the background and so positioned as to make it conspicuous, easy to read and understand in one of the official languages of the country in which it is sold



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Name and place of business

Examples of responsible persons:

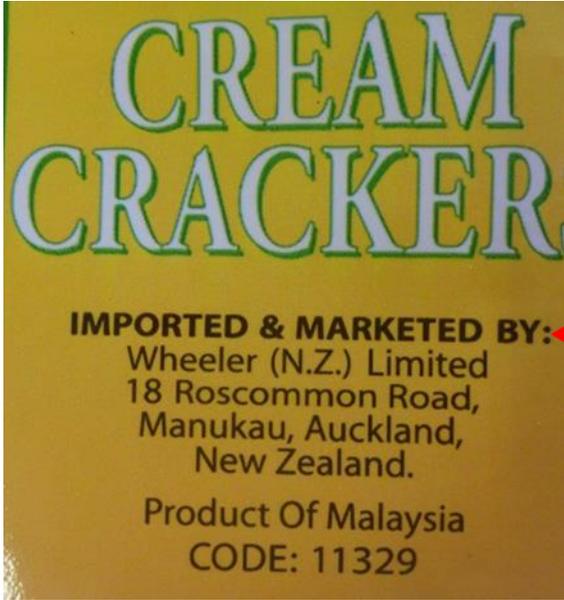
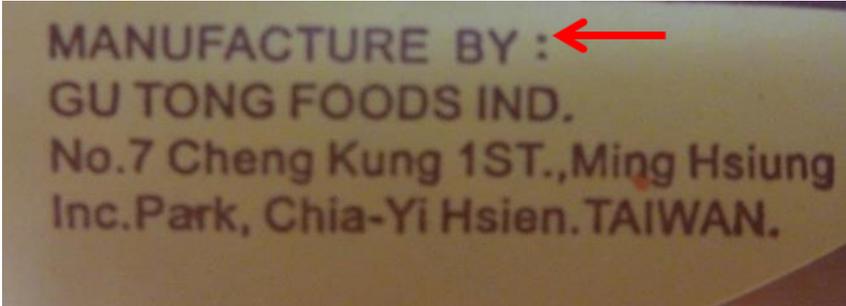
- “manufactured for ...”
- “imported by ...”
- “packed for...”
- “distributed by ...”
- “marketed by ...”



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Name and place of business





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Name and place of business

A code to identify manufacturer or packer may also be used; if accepted by National legislation





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Quantity declarations

- The nominal quantity should be marked on the principal display panel of the prepackage



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Quantity declaration exemptions

- Prepackages not intended for sale
 - Free samples
 - Sachets of condiments (provided with food or drink)
 - Free toiletries (provided by accommodation)
- However, if a quantity declaration is made the prepackage must comply with R 79



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Nominal quantity statement

- Expressed in terms of the largest whole unit of mass, volume, length, area, or
- A combination of these units in the decimal system in accordance with Annex A



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Nominal quantity statement

- No more than three significant figures
- Provided that the declaration complies with Table A.2 and
- For example 5.55 kg is allowed and 5.55**5** kg is not
- Unless a measuring instrument prints the label
- Count must be in whole numbers

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

Net quantity - count:

- Statements of a quantity in terms of count shall be expressed in whole numbers
- i.e. not 20.5 plates





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

- Depending on national regulations and customs, the net quantity statement for a specific product may be expressed in the following manner:



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

- Expressed by Volume
 - If product is liquid or viscous
 - Reference temperature would not normally appear on the label
 - Determined at a specified reference temperature if required by national regulations



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

- Expressed by Mass
 - If the product is:
 - Solid, semi-solid or viscous,
 - A mixture of solid and liquid, or
 - The solid part of a mixture of a solid and liquid



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

- Expressed by Length
 - In micro metres for the thickness of products less than 1 mm





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

For quantities based firmly on established general consumer usage and trade custom

- The quantity must provide accurate and adequate information to the purchaser
- This provision acts like a catch all provision for situations not covered on other three scenario's



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

For example:

- A liquid declared by mass



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

For example:

- A solid, semi-solid, or viscous product by volume



Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

Aerosol dispensers:

- Container designed to deliver product under pressure
- Quantity Statement to be in kilograms, grams or milligrams

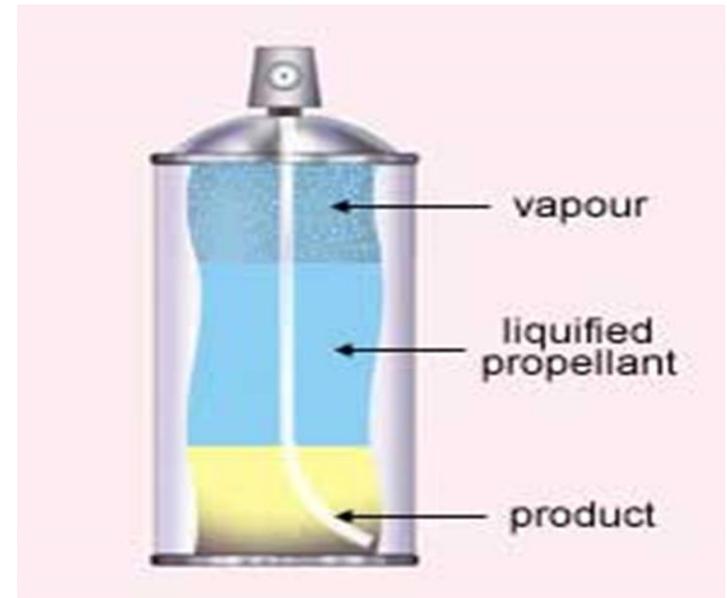


Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

Aerosol dispensers:

- Statement to declare the net quantity in mass that will be expelled
- This includes the propellant





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity

Form of net quantity statements:

- Be easily legible
- Contrast with the background
- Contrast with other information



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity statement

Form of net quantity statements:

- When value is
 - Blown, embossed or moulded on the surface of the package
 - All other required label information shall be provided elsewhere on the surface or on a label



OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Further guidance on expressing the net quantity statement

750 ml embossed on the bottom of bottles of alcoholic spirits





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Minimum font size (height) of quantity statement:

1.5 kg or 1.5 kg

This is dependant on the size of the:

- Principal display panel (See Table 3 in Annex B), or
- The quantity (See Table 4 in Annex B)

OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Significance of numbers on labels

In general, the number used on a label shall be shown to three figures in the decimal system





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Significance of numbers on labels

Quantities below 100 g,

100 mL, 100 cm³,

100 cm² and 100 cm

may be shown to two figures



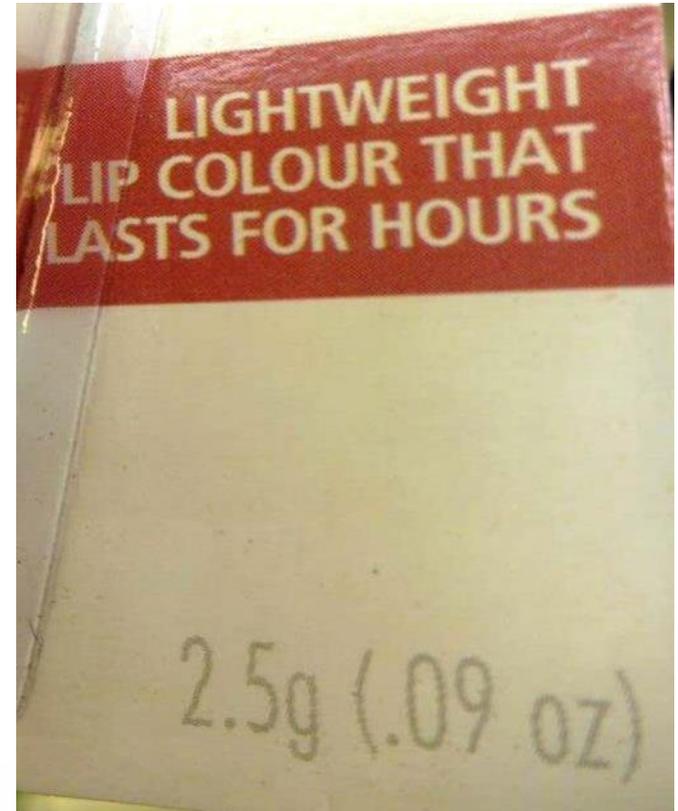


OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Significance of numbers on labels

Quantities less than one shall be shown with a zero proceeding the decimal mark





OIML R 79

Information Required On A Prepackage

Significance of numbers on labels

Statements such as “half kilogram” are not acceptable

