

COUNTRY INFORMATION OF WELMEC MEMBERS



POLAND

1. Organizational Structure and Background

The origins of the Polish administration of measures can be traced to the early period of the Polish state. The earliest preserved written evidence dates back to the year 1136. In 1420 King Władysław II Jagiełło established a legal act known as "Statuty Krakowsko - Warckie" in order to unify the units of measures. The first parliamentary act codifying the law in the field of measures was "Ustawa na miary y wagi" of 1565. On 8 February 1919, the Decree on Weights and Measures, one of the first legal acts of the reborn Republic of Poland, was signed.

The Central Office of Measures (Główny Urząd Miar – GUM, www.gum.gov.pl) was established on 1 April 1919, immediately after the Polish State regained independence, as a continuator of the Office of Measures for the city of Warszawa, organised in 1916. Following World War II, the administration of measurements underwent several organisational changes. Metrology activities were frequently merged with those related to standardisation and quality control. This led to the gradual transformation of the Central Office of Measures into various other state administrative bodies. In 1966, GUM was restructured into the Central Office of Quality and Measures (CUJiM). Later, after merging with the Polish Committee for Standardization, it functioned as the Polish Committee for Standardization and Measures (PKNiM) from 1972 to 1979, and then as the Polish Committee for Standardization, Measures, and Quality Control (PKNiMiJ) from 1979 to 1993. The Act of 3 April 1993 on the establishment of the Central Office of Measures restored the Office to its original name and scope of competence.

GUM is Poland's national metrology institute (NMI) and legal metrology authority. The President of the Central Office of Measures is a central organ of the state administration, appointed by the Prime Minister. GUM is an institution of the state administration competent in matters of metrology. The administration of measures in Poland has 2 levels structure and consists of the Central Office of Measures and 10 Regional Offices of Measures (OUM) along with 50 Local Branches.

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Structure of the Polish measures administration:



The tasks of the regional offices of measures include: performing activities related to the verification, calibration and expert opinions on measuring instruments and conformity assessment, participation in the testing of measuring instruments performed by GUM for the purpose of type approval, performing activities related to the supervision of compliance with the provisions of the Act on Measures and the Act on Packaged Goods and cooperation in this area with central and local government administration.

The following Acts delineate GUM activities (1 June 2025):

- Act of 11 May 2001 - Law on Measures (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 2063)
- Act of 1 April 2011 - Hallmarking Law (Journal of Laws of 2023, item 536)
- Act of 7 May 2009 on packaged goods (Journal of Laws 2022, item 2255)
- Act of 10 December 2003 on legal time in the territory of the Republic of Poland (Journal of Laws of 2004, No. 16, item 144)
- Act of 13 April 2016 on conformity assessment and market surveillance systems (Journal of Laws of 2025, item 568)
- Act of 5 July 2018 on tachographs (Journal of Laws of 2024, item 1037)
- Act of 11 March 2004 on tax on goods and services (Journal of Laws of 2024, items 361, 852, 1473, 1721, 1911 and of 2025 item 222)

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- Act of 15 March 2019 amending the Act on tax on goods and services and the Act – Law on measures (Journal of Laws, item 675 and of 2022, item 2707)

GUM operates in the field of scientific, applied and legal metrology. It ensures uniformity of measures and the required accuracy of quantities measurements in Poland through the maintenance of the national measurement standards of the legal units and the establishment methods of realisation of these units. GUM provides, among others, calibrations, testing, expertise, production of certified reference materials as well as conformity assessment of measuring instruments and related training. The tasks of the GUM, as legal metrology authority, comprise type approval and initial verification of measuring instruments, market surveillance and inspection, and metrological supervision. The transfer of expert knowledge is provided by seminars and training courses dealing with metrology legislation and other metrology matters. GUM actively participates in the work of international metrology organisations. It is involved in research and development in the field of measurement technologies and cooperates with science and industry.

The Świętokrzyski Laboratory Campus of the Central Office of Measures (ŚKLGUM) is a project implemented jointly by the Central Office of Measures and the Kielce University of Technology. The project aims to strengthen the collaboration between science and business. The new Polish metrology centre allows to conduct R&D works necessary for innovative economic growth. The experts of the Świętokrzyski Laboratory Campus of GUM in Kielce use advances of present-day metrology to increase the competitiveness of Polish companies in the international market. ŚKLGUM allows fundamental and applied research for numerous industry branches including: medicine, automation, robotics, pharma, cosmic technologies, automotive, navigation, geodesy, materials science, and electric engineering, to name but a few. Collaboration with the Campus laboratories provides measurement traceability and supports the companies in the implementation of advanced solutions in nanotechnology, acoustics, material science or optics.

2. Equipment Subject to National Controls with verification periods

In Poland measuring instruments under law regulations are used in the following areas: in the protection of health, life, and environment; in the protection of safety and law and order; in the protection of consumers' rights; in collecting fees, taxes and non-tax budget dues as well as in establishing discounts, penalties, remuneration and compensations, and in charging and establishing dues and services alike; in customs control; in trade.

In Poland, measuring instruments are subject to legal metrological control in the form of:

- Type Approval - carried out by GUM only
- Initial Verification - carried out by Regional Verification Offices or authorised third-party companies (certain kinds of measuring instruments only)
- Subsequent Verification - carried out by Regional Verification Offices or authorised third-party companies (certain kinds of measuring instruments only)

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The scope of legal metrological control depends on the category of measuring instrument. It may include all the aforementioned forms of legal control, two of them or only one (e.g. approval of the type or subsequent verification).

Apart from the authorities of administration of measures, the specific activities in the scope of legal control of measuring instruments are performed by the entities which were granted authorisation by the President of the Central Office of Measures to perform the initial verification or the subsequent verification of specific types of measuring instruments.

2.1 Type Approval

The aim of legal metrological control is to protect the interests defined in the Act of 11 May 2001 – Law on Measures. The type approval of the measuring instrument is a decision of the President of the Central Office of Measures which admits that a measuring instrument of a given type complies with metrological requirements specified in the relevant regulations.

In certain cases, the President of the Central Office of Measures may recognise as equal to type approval and verification appropriate documents and tests of the measuring instruments carried out by foreign metrological institutions upon having ascertained that the requirements and methods of testing comply with the requirements and methods of testing given in Polish regulations.

(This form of legal metrological control is not applicable for measuring instruments covered by MID and NAWID directives.)

2.2 Initial Verification

According to the Law on Measures during initial verification, there exist the following checks:

- verification of compliance with approved type (construction, materials, metrological characteristics)
- verification of markings and symbols
- verification of compliance with technical documentation if apply

The initial verification is a mechanism used in Poland to ensure that measuring instruments comply with the approved type, required before putting into use or placing the instrument on the Polish market.

(This form of legal metrological control is not applicable for measuring instruments covered by MID and NAWID directives.)

2.3 Subsequent Verification (Reverification)

After a certain period of time defined in the Regulation of the Minister of Entrepreneurship and Technology of 22nd March 2019 on legal metrological control of measuring instruments (Journal of Laws, item 759, of 2022, item 1179, and of 2023, item 1937) subsequent verification should be conducted. Subsequent verification is also performed when a measuring instrument has been repaired or reinstalled.

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Subsequent verification has its period of validity defined in law for every category of instrument. Subsequent verification can be performed every year like for some measuring instruments for liquids, every two or three years like for weighing instruments, and every five or even ten years like for heat or gas meters.

During subsequent verification, there take place the following checks:

- verification if markings are present, verification if the instrument is not broken
- verification of metrological characteristics (MPE etc.)

As a result of verification, in case of a positive result (for example, testing whether measuring errors are within MPE prescribed in technical regulations) inspector leaves a mark (sticker) or paper document (certificate) showing that the instrument was positively verified. The result of verification allows the use of the instrument for the next period.

3. Markings used in type approval and verifications

On a measuring instrument which has been found to comply with the requirements, the following shall be affixed:

- the manufacturer's name and trade name or trademark and address (this data shall be given in Polish);
- the CE marking, followed by additional metrology marking and, if it results from the conformity assessment procedure, the notified body number;
- the marking of accuracy, in particular by means of an indication of the accuracy class of the measuring instrument, if this results from the requirements specified for the measuring instrument in question.

On a measuring instrument, if applicable, the following markings shall be affixed:

- information concerning the conditions of use of the measuring instrument;
- information concerning the measurement capability of the measuring instrument;
- the measuring range of the measuring instrument;
- the identification marking of the measuring instrument;
- the number of the EU-type examination certificate (EC - for measuring instruments subject to earlier directives) or EU-design examination certificate (EC);
- information on whether additional devices providing metrological data meet or do not meet the requirements specified for the measuring instrument in question. information on whether additional devices providing metrological data meet or do not meet the requirements specified for a given measuring instrument.

An example of conformity marking of a measuring instrument



CE M 21 1444

Commented [DW1]: Do rozważenia: umieszczenie jednoznacznego powiązania przykładów oznaczeń z tekstem umieszczonym powyżej.

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Examples of verification marks:



An example of type approval mark:

PL T 21 001

4. Measuring Instruments Subject to Legal Metrological Control

The list of measuring instruments subjected to national metrological control is specified by the Regulation of the Minister of Development and Finance of 13th April 2017 on types of measuring instruments subject to legal metrological control and the scope of this control (Journal of Laws, item 885).

Types of instruments subject to type approval:

- oscillatory type density meters for measuring liquid density within the range from 450 kg/m³ to 2,000 kg/m³
- instrument for measuring the standard mass per storage volume of grain: standard 20 L
- sound level meters
- record sheets for recording equipment in road transport – vehicle tachographs

Types of measuring instruments subject to legal metrological control in the scope of type approval and initial verification:

- glass areometers - alcohol meters and alcohol densimeters
- glass areometers - densimeters for liquids other than alcohol
- metal barrels

Types of measuring instruments subject to legal metrological control in the scope of initial and subsequent verification:

- Weights with accuracy classes E₁, E₂, F₁, F₂, M₁ with nominal mass from 1 mg to 50 kg and weights with accuracy class M₂ with nominal mass from 1 g to 50 kg

Types of measuring instruments subject to legal metrological control in the scope of type approval, initial, and subsequent verification:

- road tankers

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- instrument for measuring the standard mass per storage volume of grain: usable 20 L, 1 L, ¼ L and standard 20 L
- tyre pressure gauges for motor vehicles
- instruments for measuring the speed of vehicles in traffic control; radar, laser and control speedometers
- weighing instruments for weighing vehicles in motion
- measuring tanks for liquids, excluding measuring tanks for liquids permanently installed on liquid fuel stations, which are used exclusively for storage of liquids

Types of measuring instruments placed on the market or use after conformity assessment within the meaning of Art. 2, point 12 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 Laying Down Requirements for Accreditation and Market Surveillance Regarding the Conditions for the Marketing of Products and Repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93 (OJ L 218, 13/08/2008, p. 30 - this regulation was amended, see OJ L 169 25/6/2019, p. 1—44) subject to subsequent verification:

- exhaust gas analysers
- heat meters with a q_p flowrate of not more than 500 m³/h, excluding constriction heat meters and combined heat meters, and the following heat energy subassemblies with a q_p flowrate of not more than 500 m³/h:
 - calculators, excluding calculators for constriction heat meters
 - temperature sensors pairs, excluding temperature sensors pairs for constriction heat meters
 - flow sensors excluding constriction flow sensors
- gas meters with a maximum flowrate Q_{max} of not more than 100 m³/h installed on the gas network, in which the maximum working pressure does not exceed 0.5 MPa, and the volume conversion devices used for these gas meters
- measuring installations for continuous and dynamic measurement of quantities of liquids other than water:
 - for cryogenic liquids with a maximum flowrate Q_{max} not greater than 600 dm³/min
 - to liquid propane-butane gas, including liquefied gas (LPG), with a maximum flowrate Q_{max} of not more than 1000 dm³/min, including dispensers of these liquids
 - to milk with a maximum flowrate Q_{max} not greater than 2000 dm³/min
 - for other liquids other than water with a maximum flowrate Q_{max} of not more than 6000 dm³/min, including fuel dispenser and biofuel dispenser
- active AC electricity meters of accuracy classes A, B, and C
- machines for measuring the surface area of leather
- instruments for measuring the length of fabrics, wire, cable, tape, dressing and paper materials
- taximeters
- automatic weighing instruments:
 - automatic catchweighers
 - discontinuous totalising automatic weighing instruments
 - automatic gravimetric filling instruments

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- continuous totalising automatic weighing instruments
- automatic rail-weighbridges
- non-automatic weighing instruments
- water meters with a continuous flowrate Q_3 of not more than 500 m³/h

5. Metrological Supervision and Sanctions

Metrological supervision also plays an important role as a mechanism used to ensure that measuring instruments comply with the approved type.

On the territory of Poland, surveillance officers check measuring instruments in:

- shops and other places where products are sold for customers and price is given as a result of measurement
- filling stations
- taxis
- drugstores/pharmacies
- other areas under legal metrological control

There are also other entities of public administration, in particular trade inspection, sanitary inspection or mining offices that, within the scope of their competence, are authorised to exert control of the implementation of the provisions of the Law on Measures.

Moreover, directors of Regional Measurement Offices are responsible for the supervision of the packing of products and measuring container bottles (MCBs). The surveillance officers perform reference tests in relation to the actual quantity of prepackages and MCBs.

According to the Law on Measures, the following offences shall be liable to a fine:

- expressing the values of physical quantities in units of measurement other than the legal units of measurement
- putting measuring instruments that are subject to legal metrological control on the market or putting them into operation, using or storing them in the same stand-by condition without the required evidence of control or failing to comply with the metrological requirements
- use measuring instruments in the fields, referred to in Law on Measures, not in compliance with proper operating conditions
- carrying out initial or subsequent verification of particular categories of measuring instruments without appropriate or authorisation
- purposefully impeding the organs of the administration of measures to perform their supervising tasks

Every year the Supervision and Inspection Department publishes a report showing how many instruments were checked, the percentage of good instruments, how many tickets were given, how many shops, pharmacies and other points were controlled. A

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similar report refers to prepackages and MCBs, it includes the information showing how many packers and lots of prepackages were controlled and the number of lots which do not meet the requirements.

6. Conformity Assessment

Conformity assessment is carried out on the basis of a civil law agreement concluded between the manufacturer or its authorised representative (applicant) and the notified body. The applicant submitting a measuring instrument for conformity assessment should do so in writing. The application should be accompanied by the EU-type examination certificate, authorisation from the instrument manufacturer, if applicable, and other documents such as: technical drawings, specifications, operating instructions and other, individually agreed with an authorised employee of the inspection body. A measuring instrument may be submitted for conformity assessment by the manufacturer or the authorised representative who holds documents confirming the right to represent the manufacturer. GUM as Notified Body 1440 carries out conformity assessment procedures in module B, G and D, while Regional Offices of Measures carry out conformity assessment procedures according to module D, F (and in several situations according to some other modules) as 1441-1449 and 2969 notified bodies.

6.1 Directive 2014/31/EU (NAWID)

Directive 2014/31/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26th of February 2014 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of non-automatic weighing instruments (OJ L 96/107, 29.03.2014) has been adopted to the Polish law by the Act of Parliament of 13th of April 2016 on Systems of Conformity Assessment and Market Surveillance (Journal of Laws of 2025, item 568) and the Regulation of the Minister of Development of 2nd of June 2016 on requirements for non-automatic weighing instrument (Journal of Laws, item 802) and no specific requirements have been implemented as regards the gravity value.

6.2 Directive 2014/32/EU (MID)

Directive 2014/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26th of February 2014 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of measuring instruments (OJ L 96/149, 29.03.2014 and L 3/2015, 07.01.2015) has been adopted to the Polish law by the Act of Parliament of 13th of April 2016 on Systems of Conformity Assessment and Market Surveillance (Journal of Laws of 2025, item 568) and the Regulation of the Minister of Development of 2nd of June 2016 on requirements for measuring instruments (Journal of Laws, item 815).

7. Contact

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