

## Ohio National Type Evaluation Laboratory

Industry and government metrology professionals alike recognize the essential role that uniform standards play in maintaining equity in the marketplace. As new products - and commercial measurement devices -- come to market, we could face the challenge of differing state and local weights and measures standards. How can manufacturers comply with these standards without incurring the costs of multiple redesigns or marketing delays? How can enforcement authorities develop the best and most comprehensive standards for new devices?

The answer is NTEP, the National Type Evaluation Program. Ohio operates one of four NTEP Laboratories for evaluation of Scales and Electronic Cash Registers.

NTEP was created for just this purpose. The NTEP program examines the design, features, operating characteristics and performance of weighing and measuring devices to ensure compliance with national requirements. Essentially, it provides a central evaluation process that satisfies the requirements for rollout of weighing and measuring devices in all fifty states. In addition, NTEP acts as a clearinghouse for enforcement practices, using the expertise and input from both regulatory and industry representatives to develop consensus on appropriate standards and procedures.

Ultimately, the savings that result from the efficiency of this process are passed along to consumers, making early type evaluation an integral link in the U.S. production chain.

An official Certificate of Conformance is issued by NCWM following successful completion of the evaluation and testing of a device. This certificate indicates that the device meets applicable requirements for commercial weighing and measuring equipment in the U.S.

Under the U.S./Canada Mutual Recognition of Type Evaluation Program, examination and test results on certain devices from one country may be recognized by the other.

The Ohio NTEP Laboratory is operated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Weights and Measures under the authority of the National Conference on Weights and Measures.

Weighing devices with capacities of up to 2000 lb (1000 kg) are evaluated in the laboratory. The evaluation of complete devices includes a comprehensive checklist, performance testing at ambient temperature and at temperature extremes of  $-10$  to  $40$  °C ( $14$  to  $104$  °F) and a permanence test of 100 000 cycles with approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  capacity load applied.

Devices with capacities of more than 2000 lb are evaluated on location, wherever the manufacturer happens to install them. The technicians from the Ohio laboratory routinely travel to other States and occasionally other countries (mostly Canada) to perform NTEP evaluations of devices larger than 2000 lb capacity.

The Ohio NTEP Laboratory is also authorized to perform evaluations to the International Standard, OIML R-76 for non-automatic weighing devices.

Effective August 8, 2003 the fees charged by the Ohio NTEP Laboratory were changed. The new fee structure is outlined below.

**Technician time** \$110.00 per hour

**Travel Expenses:**

Motels Actual cost not to exceed \$75.00/ day for in-state travel.  
Actual cost for out-of-state travel.

Meals \$40.00 / day for in-state travel.  
\$60.00 / day for out-of-state travel.

**Equipment rental (by state)** at cost to state

**State owned equipment – use and mileage costs:**

Car mileage	\$00.30 / mile		
Pickup Truck	\$00.75 / mile		
Van	\$00.75 / mile		
Small capacity scale truck	\$1.50 / mile	plus	\$200.00 / day
30 000 lb capacity scale truck or larger	\$2.00 / mile	plus	\$300.00 / day

**Environmental tests:**

Environmental chamber  
NTEP/Canadian test only \$400.00 / device / complete cycle  
\$200.00 / device / half cycle

**OIML R76 or R76 & NTEP** \$750.00 / device / complete cycle  
\$325.00 / device / half cycle

Electrostatic discharge	\$300.00 / device
Transient burst tests	\$200.00 / device
Short time power reduction tests	\$200.00 / device
RFI/EMI immunity testing in laboratory	\$100.00 / device

RFI/EMI immunity testing by outside contractor At cost to lab (Note: may also include technician time and travel expenses)

Permanence test (equipment charge) \$100.00 / device (Note: this does not include technician time)

Load cell simulator \$100.00 / device/ test

Public Transportation At cost to lab

Shipping rate At cost to lab