

# NTEP TRUCK SCALE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESSES

Presented by

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For businesses that need to use a truck scale, it is important that they acquire one that has passed the NTEP requirements. All weight scales used in for commercial ventures in terms of weighing for transportation, shipping, and product needs must conform to NTEP standards. Only through certification can you have an **NTEP scale** for your business.

# Commercial Applications

The weight scale being used for commercial applications will apply to one or more of the following:

- Transportation
- Establishes Cost of Services
- Selling
- Purchasing
- Exchanging
- Custody Transfer

Any commercial aspect that requires weight as a part of establishing cost of services will require a scale that is NTEP approved. The approval comes in the form of a Certificate of Conformance which establishes uniformity in the scales for commercial use. Basically, if the weight of a product is associated in any way with its commercial value, then the scales used to weigh it must have approval.

# Devices Subject to Evaluation

Any weight scale that is applied in a commercial application in some manner must be NTEP approved and earn its Certificate of Conformance. In addition, there are several states that have their own approval or evaluation system, although all of them incorporate the NTEP guidelines. In addition, any components that are attached to the scale which may influence the accuracy of the device is also subject to NTEP evaluation for accuracy purposes.

Exceptions would be for remote printers or indicators that perform a metrological function which will influence the price of the item being weighed. For example, a cash register that interacts with the scale or perhaps consoles of a service station that interface with fuel dispensers would qualify. Otherwise, if they have no effect then they are not subject to any evaluation by the NTEP.

# The Evaluation Process

There are NTEP laboratories located across the country. They take submissions on a “first come, first served” basis, so the scales would have to be submitted to them. If a flaw is discovered, the evaluation is stopped and the scale must be resubmitted after the flaw has been corrected. The testing starts anew for resubmissions and if the scale passes it is given the Certificate of Conformance. It takes up to four failure results for the scale to be disqualified from evaluation. It generally takes from 30 to 90 days for an evaluation to run its course.

The NTEP assumes that many companies will mix and match different weighing systems which is why they must all conform to the same standards. It is compliance with a singular standard that makes the work of the NTEP so important. While it may be cost-prohibitive to evaluate all such devices in terms of their combination, by ruling out certain ones and using others as the basis of measuring weight, it provides a singular standard that can be followed.

The truck scale is evaluated in the same general manner as most scales, taking into account its unique functions so that it can be properly certified as an NTEP scale.

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