



## NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR POINT OF SALE SYSTEMS



Australian Government

National Measurement Institute  
Trade Measurement

# NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR POINT OF SALE SYSTEMS

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On 1 August 2012, the National Measurement Institute (NMI) introduced new requirements for the approval of all new Point of Sale (POS) systems which are connected to measuring instruments used for trade. That is, ***POS systems installed or modified from this date onwards will need to have obtained an NMI Certificate of Approval.*** This is so that POS systems can be assessed for compliance against the requirements before being verified prior to use.

Prior to 1 August 2012, POS systems were approved in accordance with the General Supplementary Certificate of Approval S1/0/A, which was originally intended to cover auxiliary printers and indicators connected to measuring instruments approved for trade use.

Since the initial release of S1/0/A in 1983, POS systems have become more technologically advanced and complex. In order to provide assurance to the purchasers of these systems and clarity for the providers, a new requirements document (NMI M7 Pattern Approval Specifications for Point of Sale Systems) has been developed. NMI M7 covers the compliance specifications that POS systems must satisfy.

Certificates of Approval are issued by the Pattern Approval Section of NMI. Pattern Approval is responsible for the testing, assessment and approval of all measuring instruments used for trade in the Australian market place.

NMI is Australia's peak measurement organisation. It is a division of the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education in the Australian Government. NMI is responsible for maintaining the primary standards of measurement and providing the legal and technical framework for the dissemination of measurement standards.

## Q WHAT IS A POS SYSTEM?

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A A Point of Sale (POS) system is a component of a measuring instrument that is:

- approved for use for trade
- used for creating labels, receipts, or printouts
- able to perform a calculation based on the result of the measurement ( e.g. subtracting tare weight or calculating price)
- not able to affect the measurement operation of the instrument to which it is connected (e.g. supermarket scales, weighbridges, or some fuel dispensers).

## Q WHAT ARE THE NEW REQUIREMENTS?

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A POS systems installed or modified after 1 August 2012 are required to be compliant with NMI M7. They are required to have a Certificate of Approval, which has been issued by NMI and marked with an approval number (e.g. S\*\*\*) before being verified.

## Q DO I HAVE TO CHANGE MY CURRENT POS SYSTEM?

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A No – POS systems that are compliant with the previous General Supplementary Certificate of Approval S1/0/A and were installed before 1 August 2012 can remain in use without change, indefinitely.

## Q IF I MAKE CHANGES TO MY PRE-1 AUGUST 2012 INSTALLED POS SYSTEM SUCH AS AN UPGRADE IN SOFTWARE WILL I NEED TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW REQUIREMENTS?

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A Yes – if you do any of the following:

- changes to the method of price computation or manipulation of the measurement data

- changes to the software controlling the ticket or label formatting
- other software changes which relate to the measurement operation
- hardware changes such as replacement of processor, display, printer etc, unless the replacement is the same or equivalent model.

## Q HOW WILL I KNOW IF MY NEW POS SYSTEM IS COMPLIANT?

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A Your new POS system should have an approval number affixed to its data plate at the time of installation. If this is not clear, contact your POS system provider.

## Q WHO CAN VERIFY MY POS SYSTEM IF IT HAS BEEN INSTALLED AFTER 1 AUGUST 2012?

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A Verification of POS systems can only be conducted by appropriately licensed servicing licensees.

## Q WHERE CAN I FIND DETAILS OF POS SYSTEMS THAT ARE COMPLIANT WITH THE NEW REQUIREMENTS?

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A Certificates of Approval can be found on NMI's website: [www.measurement.gov.au/patternapprovalpos](http://www.measurement.gov.au/patternapprovalpos)

## Q ARE THE NMI M7 REQUIREMENTS ONLY APPLICABLE TO RETAIL WEIGHING POS SYSTEMS?

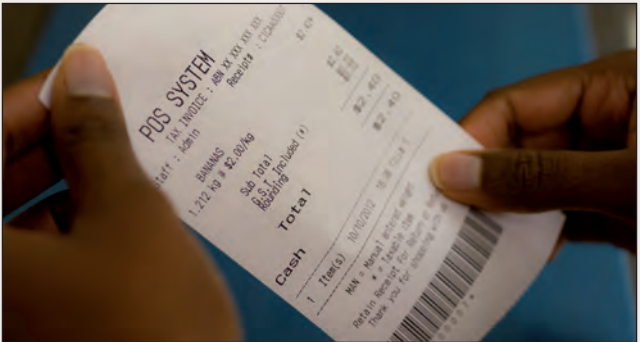
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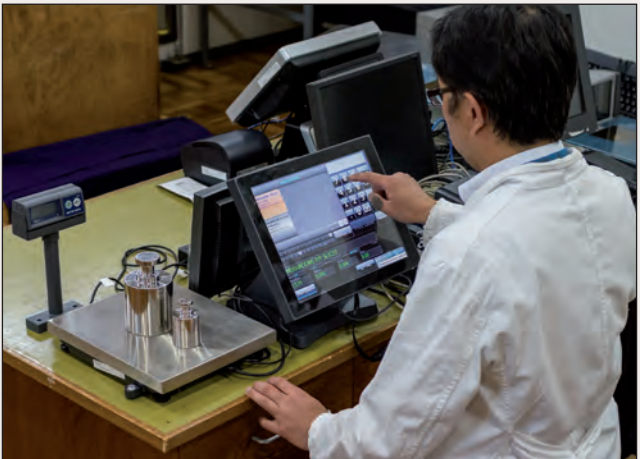
A No – these requirements are applicable to all systems that meet the definition of POS.

## Q DO POS SYSTEMS, WHICH ARE NOT CONNECTED TO A MEASURING INSTRUMENT HAVE TO BE APPROVED?

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A No – only systems that connect to a measuring instrument are covered by these requirements.





## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

To find out more about Trade Measurement and Pattern Approval requirements, please visit the NMI website:

**[www.measurement.gov.au](http://www.measurement.gov.au)**

For further information on Point of Sale systems, please refer to the following documents on the NMI website:

- NMI M7 Pattern Approval Specifications for Point of Sale Systems
- General Supplementary Certificate of Approval S1/0B
- Guidance Document – Pattern Approval of Point of Sale Systems
- POS Certificates of Approval

If you require more information on how to get a POS system approved, please email

**[patternapproval@measurement.gov.au](mailto:patternapproval@measurement.gov.au)**

For advice on what POS system is right for your business, contact your local POS system provider.

*Trade Measurement – it all adds up!*

## YOUR SERVICING LICENSEE

## CONTACTS



Bradfield Road, Lindfield, NSW 2070  
PO Box 264, Lindfield, NSW 2070



Telephone: 1300 686 664  
Facsimile: (61 2) 8467 3715



Email: [infotm@measurement.gov.au](mailto:infotm@measurement.gov.au)

[www.measurement.gov.au](http://www.measurement.gov.au)

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