Section 9: Metrology Requirements





Labelling of the quantity of a product is critical and it needs to be compliant with the mandatory requirements of Legal Metrology Bill. These labelling requirements are presented in the mandatory standard SANS 289:2022- Labelling Requirements for pre-packaged goods (pre-packages) and general requirements for the sale of goods subject to legal metrology control. (https://ctfa.co.za/wp-content/uploads/SANS289-2022-ed2.pdf)

This is a compulsory standard and as such all products sold (both locally manufactured and imported) need to comply with this standard, as any product sold on the South African market can be audited by the NRCS (National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications). Should the product be non-compliant, the NRCS can prevent sales until the relevant corrections are made. The key factor addressed is the way the mass/ volume is declared for a product with regards to minimum height declarations and acceptable units. In addition, it is a requirement that the quantity declaration be present on any panel of the product other than the base.

The other aspect of pre-packaged goods that is audited by the NRCS is the use of the "e-mark" on packaging. The e-mark is an international declaration that the product is filled following the three filling criteria. Should your product contain this mark (whether imported or locally manufactured) the brand must be registered with the Legal Metrology Division at the NRCS. Please see SANS 1841: 2008- Control of the quantity of contents in prepacked packages within the prescriptions of Legal Metrology Legislation and SANS 1840:2009- Manufacture of measuring container bottles, for additional information. These are available for purchase from www.sabs.co.za