

(A) guidance or regulations issued by the agency on the use of the metric system of measurement in contracts for the construction of Federal buildings; and

(B) the use of the metric system of measurement for services and materials required for incorporation in individual projects to construct Federal buildings.

The construction metrication ombudsman shall be independent of the contracting officer for construction contracts.

(2) The ombudsman shall be responsible for ensuring that the agency is not implementing the metric system of measurement in a manner that is impractical or is likely to cause significant inefficiencies or loss of markets to United States firms in violation of the policy stated in section 205b(2) of this title, or is otherwise inconsistent with guidance issued by the Secretary of Commerce in consultation with the Interagency Council on Metric Policy while ensuring that the goals of this subchapter are observed.

(3) The ombudsman shall respond to each complaint in writing within 60 days and make a recommendation to the head of the executive agency for an appropriate resolution thereto. In such a recommendation, the ombudsman shall consider—

(A) whether the agency is adequately applying the policies and procedures in this section;

(B) whether the availability of hard-metric products and services from United States firms is sufficient to ensure full and open competition; and

(C) the total installed price to the Federal Government.

(4) After the head of the agency has rendered a decision regarding a recommendation of the ombudsman, the ombudsman shall be responsible for communicating the decision to all appropriate policy, design, planning, procurement, and notifying personnel in the agency. The ombudsman shall conduct appropriate monitoring as required to ensure the decision is implemented, and may submit further recommendations, as needed. The head of the agency's decision on the ombudsman's recommendations, and any supporting documentation, shall be provided to affected parties and made available to the public in a timely manner.

(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede the bid protest process established under subchapter V of chapter 35 of title 31.

(Pub. L. 94-168, §14, as added and amended Pub. L. 104-289, §§4(a), 5, Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3412, 3414; Pub. L. 108-423, §6, Nov. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2402.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The effective date of the Savings in Construction Act of 1996, referred to in subsecs. (b)(1) and (c)(2), is 90 days after Oct. 11, 1996. See Effective Date of 1996 Amendment; Savings Provision note set out under section 205c of this title.

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a), "division C (except sections 3302, 3307(e), 3501(b), 3509, 3906, 4710, and 4711) of subtitle I of title 41" substituted for "title III of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 251 et seq.)", "section 3307(d) of title 41" substituted for "section 314B(c) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 264b(c))", "section 3307(b) to (d) of title 41" substituted for "section 314B of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949", and "or 3307(b) to (d)" substituted for "or 314B" on authority of Pub. L. 111-350, §6(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3854, which Act enacted Title 41, Public Contracts.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 108-423 struck out heading and text of subsec. (e). Text read as follows: "The provisions contained in subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall expire 10 years from the effective date of the Savings in Construction Act of 1996."

1996—Pub. L. 104-289, §5, added subsec. (f).

EFFECTIVE DATE; SAVINGS PROVISION

Section effective 90 days after Oct. 11, 1996, and inapplicable to contracts awarded and solicitations issued on or before that date, unless head of Federal agency makes written determination that it would be in public interest to apply one or more provisions of Pub. L. 104-289 to these existing contracts or solicitations, see section 6(b) of Pub. L. 104-289, set out as an Effective Date of 1996 Amendment; Savings Provision note under section 205c of this title.

SUBCHAPTER III—STANDARD GAUGE FOR IRON AND STEEL

§ 206. Standard gauge for sheet and plate iron and steel

For the purpose of securing uniformity the following is established as the only standard gauge for sheet and plate iron and steel in the United States of America, namely:

Number of gauge	Approximate thickness in fractions of an inch	Approximate thickness in decimal parts of an inch	Approximate thickness in millimeters	Weight per square foot in ounces avoirdupois	Weight per square foot in pounds avoirdupois	Weight per square foot in kilograms	Weight per square meter in kilograms	Weight per square meter in pounds avoirdupois
000000	1/2	.5	12.7	320	20.00	9.072	97.65	215.28
000000	15/32	.46875	11.90625	300	18.75	8.505	91.55	201.82
00000	7/16	.4375	11.1125	280	17.50	7.983	85.44	188.37
0000	13/32	.40625	10.31875	260	16.25	7.371	79.33	174.91
000	3/8	.375	9.525	240	15	6.804	73.24	161.46
00	11/32	.34375	8.73125	220	13.75	6.237	67.13	148.00
0	5/16	.3125	7.9375	200	12.50	5.67	61.03	134.55
1	9/32	.28125	7.14375	180	11.25	5.103	54.93	121.09
2	17/64	.265625	6.746875	170	10.625	4.819	51.88	114.37
3	1/4	.25	6.35	160	10	4.536	48.82	107.64
4	15/64	.234375	5.953125	150	9.375	4.252	45.77	100.91
5	7/32	.21875	5.55625	140	8.75	3.969	42.72	94.18
6	13/64	.203125	5.159375	130	8.125	3.685	39.67	87.45
7	3/16	.1875	4.7625	120	7.5	3.402	36.62	80.72
8	11/64	.171875	4.365625	110	6.875	3.118	33.57	74.00
9	5/32	.15625	3.96875	100	6.25	2.835	30.52	67.27
10	9/64	.140625	3.571875	90	5.625	2.552	27.46	60.55
11	1/8	.125	3.175	80	5	2.268	24.41	53.82
12	7/64	.109375	2.778125	70	4.375	1.984	21.36	47.09

Number of gauge	Approximate thickness in fractions of an inch	Approximate thickness in decimal parts of an inch	Approximate thickness in millimeters	Weight per square foot in ounces avoirdupois	Weight per square foot in pounds avoirdupois	Weight per square foot in kilograms	Weight per square meter in kilograms	Weight per square meter in pounds avoirdupois
13	3/32	.09375	2.38125	60	3.75	1.701	18.31	40.36
14	5/64	.078125	1.984375	50	3.125	1.417	15.26	33.64
15	9/128	.0703125	1.7859375	45	2.8125	1.276	13.73	30.27
16	1/16	.0625	1.5875	40	2.5	1.134	12.21	26.91
17	9/160	.05625	1.42875	36	2.25	1.021	10.99	24.22
18	1/20	.05	1.27	32	2	.9072	9.765	21.53
19	7/160	.04375	1.11125	28	1.75	.7938	8.544	18.84
20	3/80	.0375	.9525	24	1.50	.6804	7.324	16.15
21	11/320	.034375	.873125	22	1.375	.6237	6.713	14.80
22	1/32	.03125	.793750	20	1.25	.567	6.103	13.46
23	9/320	.028125	.714375	18	1.125	.5103	5.493	12.11
24	1/40	.025	.635	16	1	.4536	4.882	10.76
25	7/320	.021875	.555625	14	.875	.3969	4.272	9.42
26	3/160	.01875	.47625	12	.75	.3402	3.662	8.07
27	11/640	.0171875	.4365625	11	.6875	.3119	3.357	7.40
28	1/64	.015625	.396875	10	.625	.2835	3.052	6.73
29	9/640	.0140625	.3571875	9	.5625	.2551	2.746	6.05
30	1/80	.0125	.3175	8	.5	.2268	2.441	5.38
31	7/640	.0109375	.2778125	7	.4375	.1984	2.136	4.71
32	13/1280	.01015625	.25796875	6½	.40625	.1843	1.983	4.37
33	3/320	.009375	.238125	6	.375	.1701	1.831	4.04
34	11/1280	.00859375	.21828125	5½	.34375	.1559	1.678	3.70
35	5/640	.0078125	.1984375	5	.3125	.1417	1.526	3.36
36	9/1280	.00703125	.17859375	4½	.28125	.1276	1.373	3.03
37	17/2560	.006640625	.168671875	4¼	.265625	.1205	1.297	2.87
38	1/160	.00625	.15875	4	.25	.1134	1.221	2.69

The same and no other shall be used in determining duties and taxes levied by the United States of America on sheet and plate iron and steel. But this subchapter shall not be construed to increase duties upon any articles which may be imported.

(Mar. 3, 1893, ch. 221, § 1, 27 Stat. 746.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this act", meaning act Mar. 3, 1893, ch. 221, 27 Stat. 746, which is classified to sections 206 to 208 of this title.

§ 207. Preparation of standards by Secretary of Commerce

The Secretary of Commerce is authorized and required to prepare suitable standards in accordance with section 206 of this title.

(Mar. 3, 1893, ch. 221, § 2, 27 Stat. 746; Feb. 14, 1903, ch. 552, § 10, 32 Stat. 829; Mar. 4, 1913, ch. 141, § 1, 37 Stat. 736.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Act Mar. 4, 1913, created Department of Labor, and re-named Department of Commerce and Labor as Department of Commerce.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Act Feb. 14, 1903, transferred National Bureau of Standards from Treasury Department to Department of Commerce and Labor.

§ 208. Variations

In the practical use and application of the standard gauge established<sup>1</sup> in section 206 of this title a variation of 2½ percent, either way may be allowed.

(Mar. 3, 1893, ch. 221, § 3, 27 Stat. 746.)

SUBCHAPTER IV—SCREW THREADS

§§ 208a to 212. Repealed. Pub. L. 89-554, § 8(a), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 644, 646

Sections, acts July 18, 1918, ch. 156, §§1-5, 40 Stat. 912, 913; Mar. 3, 1919, ch. 96, 40 Stat. 1291; Apr. 16, 1926, ch.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be "established".

148, 44 Stat. 297, created Commission for the Standardization of Screw Threads and provided for composition of Commission, its duties, and pay.

SUBCHAPTER V—STANDARDS OF ELECTRICITY

§§ 221, 222. Repealed. July 21, 1950, ch. 484, § 13, 64 Stat. 370

Sections, act July 12, 1894, ch. 131, §§1, 2, 28 Stat. 101, 102, related to units of electrical measure.

§§ 223, 224. Repealed. Pub. L. 110-69, title III, § 3013(c)(2), Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 598

Section 223, acts July 21, 1950, ch. 484, §§1-11, 64 Stat. 369; Pub. L. 88-165, Nov. 4, 1963, 77 Stat. 299, related to units of electrical measure.

Section 224, act July 21, 1950, ch. 484, § 12, 64 Stat. 370, related to establishment of values of primary electric and photometric units in absolute measure and legal values for those units.

SUBCHAPTER VI—STANDARD BARRELS

§ 231. Standard barrel for apples; steel barrels

The standard barrel for apples shall be of the following dimensions when measured without distention of its parts: Length of stave, twenty-eight and one-half inches; diameter of head, seventeen and one-eighth inches; distance between heads, twenty-six inches; circumference of bulge, sixty-four inches outside measurement, representing as nearly as possible seven thousand and fifty-six cubic inches: *Provided*, That steel barrels containing the interior dimensions provided for in this section shall be construed as a compliance therewith.

(Aug. 3, 1912, ch. 273, § 1, 37 Stat. 250.)

§ 232. Barrels below standard; marking

All barrels packed with apples shall be deemed to be below standard if the barrel bears any statement, design, or device indicating that the barrel is a standard barrel of apples, as defined in section 231 of this title, and the capacity of the barrel is less than the capacity prescribed by said section, unless the barrel shall be plainly marked on end and side with words or figures showing the fractional relation which the actual