

## REGULATING THE SALE OF LIQUID FUELS

The NMI employs inspectors throughout Australia. The role of inspectors is to:

- ensure that all measuring instruments used for trade are verified and used correctly
- monitor the verification activities of servicing licensees
- investigate complaints and resolve problems with trade measurement matters
- issue infringement notices or take prosecution action where there have been breaches of the laws.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ...

See the NMI website

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

The main laws covering trade measurement in Australia are the *National Measurement Act 1960* and the National Trade Measurement Regulations 2009.

For information on the sale of liquid fuels see:

- Regulation 1.3
- Regulation 5.2 (1 b iv)
- Regulation 5.3
- Regulation 5.4.

For offences and penalties regarding the use of measuring instruments for trade and shortfall provisions, see the following sections of the Act:

- Section 18HC – Certain articles must be sold by measurement
- Section 18GA – Measuring instruments used for trade to be verified
- Section 18GD – Inaccurate use of measuring instruments
- Section 18KD – Shortfall offence.

*Trade Measurement – it all adds up!*



## GUIDE TO THE SALE OF PETROL, DIESEL AND LPG



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The purpose of this publication is to provide you with general information only and should not be relied upon for any legal, business or personal purpose. Nothing in this publication shall be taken in any way to replace the provisions of the *National Measurement Act 1960* (Cth), the National Trade Measurement Regulations 2009 (Cth) and any other legislative instruments made pursuant to the *National Measurement Act 1960*.

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

# GUIDE TO THE SALE OF PETROL, DIESEL AND LPG

## TRADE MEASUREMENT

The National Measurement Institute (NMI) is Australia's peak measurement organisation, a division of the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research in the Australian Government.

The NMI is responsible for maintaining the primary standards of measurement and providing the legal and technical framework for the dissemination of measurement standards.

The trade measurement laws administered by the NMI cover:

- the definition of the legal units of measurement
- the use of measuring instruments for trade
- testing and verification of measuring instruments for trade
- transactions by measurement
- pre-packed articles (or prepackages)
- licensing of businesses that verify trade measuring instruments (these are known as servicing licensees)
- licensing of public weighbridges.

## WHAT IS A LIQUID FUEL?

Liquid fuels include:

- petrol
- diesel
- liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

## WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FUEL DISPENSER?

Under the national trade measurement laws, your fuel dispenser is a 'measuring instrument for trade'. The person responsible for its use is:

- the person who is actually or apparently in control of the measuring instrument
- the person who has it in their possession for trade use
- the person who makes it available for use.

Note that under the trade measurement laws, a customer using a self-serve measuring instrument such as a fuel dispenser is not considered to be a person in control of this instrument.



## SELLING LIQUID FUELS

If you are selling petrol, diesel or LPG you must comply with the following requirements:

- LPG dispensers must be accurate within the specified tolerances
- all other fuel dispensers must be accurate within  $\pm 0.3\%$
- all volume must be displayed in litres (L)
- indicators showing unit price (\$ per L) and total price (\$) must be clearly displayed
- all hoses, nozzles, lights and displays must be in good working order
- all fuel dispensers used for the wholesale and retail sale of petrol, diesel and LPG must be verified and their calibration points sealed by a servicing licensee or trade measurement inspector
- in the case of multi-product fuel dispensers, each delivery hose is a measuring instrument
- control systems attached to fuel dispensers are a measuring instrument and must be verified by a servicing licensee or trade measurement inspector.

For more on approved measuring instruments, verification servicing licensees and trade measurement inspectors see the NMI website.