



Examiner's report

UK Metrology Group

Stage 2: Unit 4 Weights and Measures Practical Examiner's Report September 2022

General

The practical exam was sat by 8 candidates this year. Only 2 candidates achieved the pass mark. The exam consisted of 2 practical questions and 2 scenario questions. Each question was worth 25 marks and, on average, the practical questions were answered better than the scenarios. One paper was used in this diet.

Scenario Paper – LFMI and CSM

LFMI

The average mark for this question was 12 out of 25, with one candidate scoring almost full marks. Some candidates applied incorrect limits of error leading to some nozzles being passed when they should have failed. Candidates were asked to make a conformity assessment decision and state the paperwork they will be issue and which stickers they would apply. Many thought it was a good idea to hedge their bets and say if passed they would do x, but if failed they would do y. But earlier on in the question there was data to analyse so candidates should have answered the remaining questions based on their own results rather than adopting a scatter gun approach.

CSM

Very poorly answered overall with the average mark only 7.6 out of 25. Candidates had clearly not familiarised themselves with the work instructions and test forms produced by the Expert Panel and hosted in the library of the UK Metrology Khub group.

Practical Paper – NAWI and Average Quantity

NAWI

Identification of equipment was again an issue. Candidates should demonstrate a systematic approach to this. Traceability in legal metrology is vital. The question asks for a table, but few were produced. Few candidates managed to draw a graph of linearity and hysteresis. Testing a NAWI is essential knowledge for an inspector of weights and measures so candidates should always be prepared to receive a question on it. This information seems to have been taken on board: all but one candidate passed this question. Average mark was 13.5 out of 25.

Average Quantity

Time management seemed to have been the biggest contributing factor resulting in the lowest average mark out of all the questions at 7.3 out of 25.

General Comments

Candidates should ensure they are using correct terminology. Many were mixed up with declarations and certificates of conformity, also the refusal to issue a certificate of conformity was not well understood.

Thorough completion of the portfolio, and practice, is essential preparation for this exam.