

Examiner's report

CTSI Professional Competency Framework

Stage 2: Weights and Measures Practical Examiner's Report November 2020

General

The practical exam was sat by 6 candidates this year all of whom achieved the pass mark of 40%. One candidate was clearly very well prepared and achieved 74%. The lowest mark was 47%, average mark was 59%.

The exam consisted of 2 practical questions and 2 scenario questions that were based on Directive 2014/32/EU. Each question was worth 25 marks. As was the case in 2019, on average the scenario questions were answered better than the practical ones. All candidates were given the same questions.

The practical question on testing a Non-automatic Weighing Instrument was answered the best with one candidate just missing out on full marks. The question on Measuring Container Bottles produced the lowest average mark and was generally not very well answered.

The Scenario questions on Automatic Catch weighing Instruments and Bulk Fuel were answered well by all candidates.

Good time management is key for successful results in this exam. There are two questions to be completed in an hour and keeping to a 50/50 split is crucial. This year candidates seemed better at keeping to this timing which really does ensure that maximum marks can be obtained. Questions and equipment for this exam can be drawn from the entire syllabus so thorough completion of the portfolio, and practice, is essential.

Comments on specific questions

NAWI

Issues with calculations resulted in one candidate failing the instrument when it should have passed. Another incorrectly calculated the error at zero, causing the instrument to fail, and stopped testing the instrument. A failed test is also a valid outcome and all tests should be performed. This also demonstrates an understanding of the verification process to the examiner.

MCB

This question resulted in a wide range of marks and it was clear timing and practice had been an issue for candidates. Marks were missed in this question by not identifying the equipment

Automatic Catchweighing Instruments and Bulk Fuel Scenario Questions

Marks for these questions ranged from 9 to 21 and, overall, candidates did well. Generally speaking, marks were lost in the sections where test data was to be analysed as mistakes were made with the calculations. The health and safety requirements in relation to bulk fuel were poorly answered