White Paper GWP® Verification

GWP®
Good Weighing Practice™

Reducing the Costs of Compliance

Introduction

Verifying weighing equipment is a time-consuming and costly task. There are many common misconceptions about how and how often balances and scales should be tested. In fact, many companies are testing too much and for the wrong sources of error. GWP® Verification provides globally recognized assurance for optimal weighing performance with minimal testing efforts.

Performance Verification

Regular verification and control of weighing equipment is an essential part of any ISO, GLP or GMP quality management system. Testing assures consistent performance of the instrument and fulfills current regulatory or normative requirements. But how and how often should you test your balances or scales?

The global weighing guideline Good Weighing Practice™ provides clear advice on what testing is required, according to your process risks and accuracy requirements. With GWP® Verification, all performance verification procedures are described in a single document devised for auditing purposes.

Common misconceptions about testing of weighing systems are widespread throughout the industry:

Common Misconception	Reality	$$$
The balance should be tested daily by external weights.	Internal automatic calibration or adjustment reduces the frequency of external weight tests to weekly, monthly or even quarterly.	Cost savings due to less testing with external weights.
Several external weights should be used to test the nonlinearity behavior of the balance.	For typical laboratory balances, non-linearity errors are negligible.	Cost savings due to less testing of external weights and reduced weight re-calibration costs.
Testing should always be done at the "working point", e.g. for an analytical balance (220g/0.01mg) with a wire weight of 20mg.	Sensitivity tests should be performed with a weight close to maximal capacity (e.g. 200g). Repeatability tests should be performed with a weight of 5% of the capacity (e.g. 10g).	Cost savings due to reduced weight handling costs.
The user needs a full set of weights to test the balance regularly.	All routine tests can be performed with 2 weights only.	Cost savings due to reduced recalibration costs.

GWP Verification can also help you comply with ISO9001:2015 revisions – Deadline approaching in 2018!
Learn more by visiting **www.mt.com/na-ISO-9001**.

METTLER TOLEDO

Evaluation of Savings Potential
in Your Current Performance Verification System of Weighing Equipment

Assured Consistency – Accuracy Calibration Certificate including Minimum Weight

The Accuracy Calibration Certificate (ACC) documents the measurement uncertainty and the minimum weight for different weighing accuracies and safety factors. Choose the minimum weight that applies to your accuracy requirements and multiply it with a safety factor to avoid deviations between two calibrations. For standard processes, a safety factor of two is recommended.

Example of a GWP® Verification and ACC Certificate.

1. Benchmark your existing verification system with a GWP® Verification recommendation, assessing your risks and your quality requirements.
2. Detect relevant differences and evaluate the improvement potential for your quality management system.
3. Maintain accuracy through routine testing with the Accuracy Calibration Certificate (ACC) with GWP Annex.

Possible Results

You do the right thing	You will receive confirmation by METTLER TOLEDO that your verification system is safe and meets all current regulations. This gives you peace of mind for internal and external audits.
You do the wrong thing	You can save money by discontinuing testing that does not affect the quality of your processes. You can improve safety by allocating more time to perform effective measures.
You do too much	You can save money by reducing your compliance efforts without inducing more risk.
You do too little	You can reduce risks by specifically improving your performance verification procedures.

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For more information

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GWP®
Good Weighing Practice™

The global weighing guideline GWP® reduces risks associated with your weighing processes and helps to
- choose the appropriate balance
- reduce costs by optimizing testing procedures
- comply with the most common regulatory requirements

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