



Prepackages

European Requirements

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EU Legal Framework



- Directive 76/211/EEC – Prepackages
 - Quantity requirements
 - Inscriptions & marking
 - Responsibilities
- Directive 75/107/EEC – MCB
 - Measuring container bottles
- Directive 2007/45/EC – Nominal quantities
 - Nominal quantities & multipacks
 - Aerosol dispensers

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'Prepackages'



- 'Prepackage' – combination of a product and the individual package in which it is prepacked.
- 'Prepacked'
 - product is placed in package without the purchaser being present
 - quantity has a predetermined value, and
 - quantity cannot be altered without opening package or packaging being perceptibly modified

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Scope



- Products intended for sale
- In constant unit nominal quantities
- Equal to values predetermined by the packer
- Expressed in units of weight or volume
- Not less than 5 g or 5 ml
- Not more than 10 kg or 10 L
- (the scope is not product specific)

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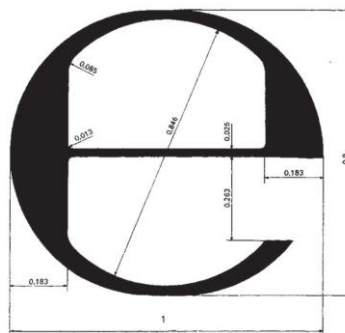
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'e' mark



- Optional
- Minimum of 3 mm high
- Same field of vision as the indication of nominal weight or nominal volume
- It is a guarantee, by packer or importer, that the prepackage meets the requirements of Directive 76/211/EEC



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Marking Quantity



- Prepackages containing **liquid products** shall be marked with their **nominal volume**
 - mL, cL or L
- Packages containing **other products** shall be marked with their **nominal weight**
 - g or kg
- **Except** where there are contrary Community Rules or trade practice or national regulations identical in all Member States
- If non-identical trade practices or national regulations, show metrological information prevailing in country of destination

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Quantity marking size



The nominal quantity expressed in figures followed by the symbol for, or the name of, the unit of measurement

Nominal quantity (in ml or g)	Minimum height of figures
Up to and including 50	2 mm
Above 50 up to and including 200	3 mm
Above 200 up to and including 1 000	4 mm
Above 1 000	6 mm

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Identity marking



- A mark, **or** inscription
- enabling the competent department to identify
- the packer **or**
- the person arranging for the packing **or**
 - For example a supermarket chain
- the importer
- established in the Community

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Manner of marking



- Markings affixed in such a manner as to be:
- indelible,
- easily legible and visible on the package in normal conditions of presentation
 - Legibility affected by colour of marking and the background colour
 - Legibility affected by orientation
 - Not hidden
 - OIML recommend on the ‘principle display panel’

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Quantity requirements



- Actual contents shall not be less, on average, than the nominal quantity (Q_n),
- Proportion of prepackages having a negative error greater than the tolerable negative error specified (T_1) shall be sufficiently small for a batch to satisfy the tests specified
- No prepackage having a negative error greater than twice the tolerable negative error specified (T_2) may bear the EEC sign (e)

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Tolerable negative errors (TNE)



Nominal quantity Q_n in g or ml	TNE as % of Q_n	TNE in g or ml
5 to 50	9	-
from 50 to 100	-	4.5
from 100 to 200	4.5	-
from 200 to 300	-	9
from 300 to 500	3	-
from 500 to 1 000	-	15
from 1 000 to 10 000	1.5	-

When values of TNE are shown as % then calculated TNE shall be rounded up to the nearest one-tenth of a gram or millimetre

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Example of TNE



- Nominal quantity 200 g, from table TNE is either 4.5% (= 9 g), or 9 g
- $T1 = Q_n - TNE = 200 - 9 = 191 \text{ g}$
- $T2 = Q_n - 2TNE = 200 - 2 \times 9 = 182 \text{ g}$
- Nominal quantity 125 ml, from table TNE is 4.5% = $125 \times 0.045 = 5.625$ round up to 5.7 ml
- $T1 = Q_n - TNE = 125 - 5.7 = 119.3 \text{ ml}$
- $T2 = Q_n - 2TNE = 125 - 2 \times 5.7 = 113.6 \text{ ml}$

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Example: Quantity requirements



- $Q_n = 200 \text{ g}$ $T1 = 191 \text{ g}$ $T2 = 182 \text{ g}$
- The average quantity of the product shall not be less than $Q_n = 200\text{g}$
- Sufficiently small proportion below T1, generally less than 2.5% (1 in 40), below 191 g
- None below T2, generally less than 1 in 10 000 below 182 g

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Packer's responsibilities



- Ensure that the prepackages meet requirements
- Shall measure actual content of prepackage, **or**
- Shall check the actual content using a legal and suitable measuring instrument,
 - checks may be carried out by sampling
 - Checks organised so quantity of contents is effectively ensured
 - Fulfilled if procedures recognised by competent department and results of checks, with corrections and adjustments, available to competent department

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Instruments – to measure content



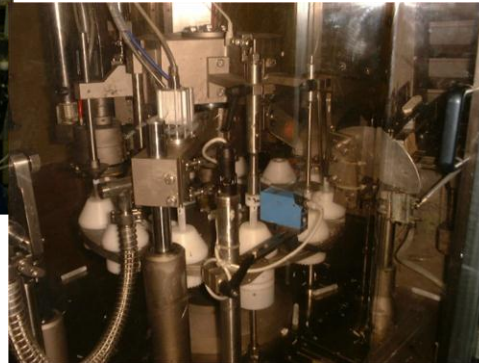
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Fillers



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Checks



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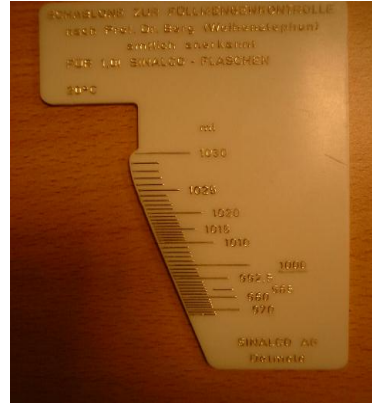
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MCB



- For products with a nominal volume, MCB complying with Directive 75/107/EEC can be used



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Importer's responsibilities



- May measure and check (as for packer)
- Or
- Provide evidence that he is in possession of all the necessary guarantees enabling him to assume responsibility

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Competent department's responsibilities



- Checks to ensure that the prepackages comply with the provisions of the Directive
- Shall carry out checks by sampling on:
 - the packer's premises **or**,
 - on the premises of the importer or of his agent established in the Community
- May do other checks at any stage of the marketing process

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Nominal quantities



- Certain wines and spirits
- Whether or not e marked
- Does not apply to products sold in duty-free shops for consumption outside the European Union
- Multipacks
 - Individual prepackage of a nominal quantity, or
 - If not intended to be sold individually, total quantity of all contents must be a nominal quantity

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Nominal quantities



Product	Interval :100 ml to 1 500 ml for still wines 125 ml to 1 500 ml for sparkling wines 100 ml to 2 000ml for spirits Specified quantities
Still wine	100 – 187 – 250 – 375 – 500 – 750 – 1 000 – 1 500 (deleted 2 L, 3L, 4L, 5L, 6L, 7L, 8L, 9L and 10L)
Yellow wine	620
Sparkling wine	125 – 200 – 375 – 750 – 1 500 (deleted 3L, 4.5L, 6L and 9L)
Liqueur wine	100 – 200 – 375 – 500 – 750 – 1 000 – 1 500
Aromatised wine	100 – 200 – 375 – 500 – 750 – 1 000 – 1 500
Spirit drinks	100 – 200 – 350 – 500 – 700 – 1 000 - 1 500 – 1 750 – 2 000 (deleted 2cl, 3cl, 4cl, 5cl, 7.1cl, 1.125L, 2.5L, 3L, 4L, 5L and 10L)
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Aerosol dispensers

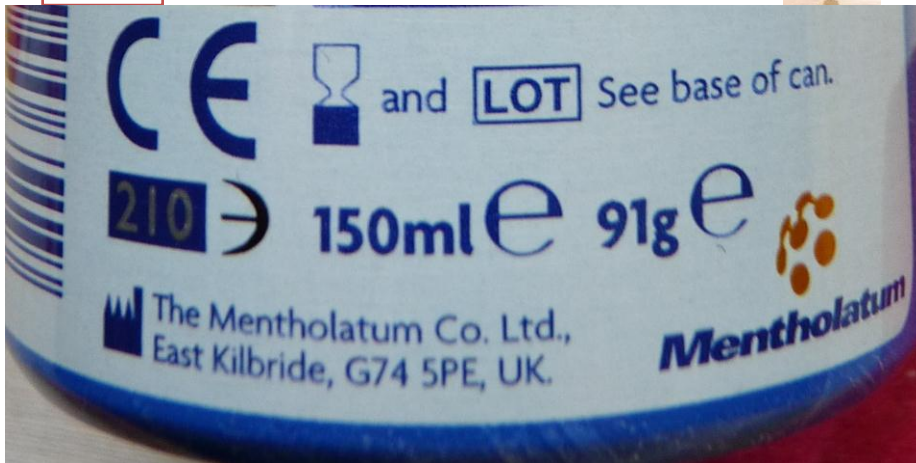


- Shall indicate the nominal total capacity of the container
 - So as not to create confusion with the nominal volume of the content
- By way of derogation from Directive 75/324/EEC (relating to aerosol dispensers) products sold in aerosol dispensers need not be marked with the nominal weight of the contents

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Imported prepackages



- If e marked prepackages enter the European Community then:
- the importer in the Community has the responsibility of ensuring that the prepackages comply with the requirements, and
- the competent department shall carried out checks at the importer's premises
- 'e'-marked prepackages have unhindered access to the Community market

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• THANK YOU