



14 January 2019

To: Specifications & Tolerances Committee, National Council on Weights & Measures

Reference Item SCL-7, NCWM Interim Meeting

Subject: Covia Holdings Corporation (Covia) Representative Testimony in support of Handbook 44 revisions proposed by Meridian Engineers

Delivered by Steve Lind, VP Quality Analytics, Covia

The three (3) Meridian Trackweigh 2D in-motion rai scale systems installed by Meridian Engineers at the Covia Wedron, IL location have been an accurate and reliable investment. The Handbook 44 revisions as reviewed by Mr. Richard Suiter are reasonable, logical and will add value to the certification maintenance process.

Our 1800 acre sand mining site in Wedron, IL has been in service since the late 1800's. We ship 9 million tons per year on a 24/7, 364 day schedule. Reducing capital investment, operating costs, downtime and maximizing output are vitally important in providing our Customers the high quality product, on schedule and at the desired price. Shutdown of outgoing shipments was required for installation of the rail scales and is required for all calibration and re-certification activities.

The Meridian Trackweigh 2D system's technology allowed us to minimize installation downtime by installing over a ballast track bed at half the cost of a concrete bed installation. The interruption was minimal compared to a 20 – 30 day estimate for the alternative. Precision and accuracy have been adequate for our Customer's needs.

The proposed revision to T.N.3.6.1 to increase the tolerance to 0.5% for dynamic only weighing systems should minimize the operations interruptions for railbed tamping to control track pump.

The proposed revision to UR.5, to allow one time static reference weighing of the dynamic test railcars is valuable for us. We will only static weigh the test railcars on one of the less heavily used scales. This will save six (6) hours of production interruption on the other two scale annual re-certification events, equating to 5,175 tons of product sold per year.

The Meridian Engineers system is an integral part of our production operation. The performance of this technology and equipment in our high volume environment has been accurate and reliable. We look forward to realizing the benefits of these proposed changes.