Global Hardware Pipes Certified

Global Hardware Inc. was awarded the National Standards mark for polypropylene pipes manufactured by the company after meeting the requirements of the National Standard CNS 465-2010, Specification for polypropylene (PP) pipes. By meeting the requirements of the standard under the GNBS Product Certification Scheme, Global Hardware Inc. has demonstrated its commitment and dedication to providing consumers with assurance that the pipes it manufactures meet quality requirements of the National Standard. In addition to the polypropylene pipes, two other locally manufactured polyvinyl pipes that are certified by the GNBS, namely pipes manufactured by Guyana Thermoplastic Limited (Tooble Bursa) and Plastic Limited (Gafcon), also manufacture polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes. Products certified under the GNBS Product Certification Scheme would carry the National Standards mark which indicates that they were tested and checked by a Third party. This would give the assurance and confidence to the public that the products are of quality and are meeting recognized standards.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES ACTIVITIES

During the last quarter of 2010, intensive Weights and Measures surveillance inspections were conducted at commercial markets and supermarkets throughout Guyana, to ensure that all weighing and measuring devices used in commercial transactions were stamped for the second half of the year, accurate and in acceptable condition. As a result of inspections conducted, a total of 2870 premises/stalls were visited, resulting in 516 scales, 470 masses and 15 measures being seized and removed. Devices seized were either not stamped for the second half of the year or were in an unacceptable condition and could have resulted in consumers being cheated by vendors/retailers and shopkeepers during commercial transactions.

Further, GNBS continued the verification of trade meters that were locally-manufactured or imported. This resulted in 154 scales and 119 masses being approved. For subsequent verification, 505 scales, 931 masses and 20 weighbridge scales were tested for accuracy. At filling stations and bulk terminals 45 petrol pumps and 31 bulk meters were verified.

GCCI/GNBS Workshop for Importers and Local Manufacturers

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce (GCCI) and the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) collaboratively hosted a workshop on the October 29, 2010 at the Grand Coastal Inn. The purpose of the workshop was to provide information and guidance to the GCCI’s members (importers and local manufacturers) regarding the requirements of the GNBS Standards Compliance Programme, and to find ways to work together to ensure quality goods are imported into Guyana.

In addition to the polypropylene pipes, two other locally manufactured polyvinyl pipes that are certified by the GNBS, namely pipes manufactured by Guyana Thermoplastic Limited (Tooble Bursa) and Plastic Limited (Gafcon), also manufacture polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes. Products certified under the GNBS Product Certification Scheme would carry the National Standards mark which indicates that they were tested and checked by a Third party. This would give the assurance and confidence to the public that the products are of quality and are meeting recognized standards.

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GUYANA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Gucci/GNBS Workshop for Importers and Local Manufacturers

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Indeed, the vast demand for different products and services worldwide has resulted in the need for the development and application of standards in all spheres of life, both by public and private institutions by that nature encourage the provision of these goods and services in a timely, systematic, organized and consistent manner, that allows for access by all.

When we speak about accessibility, we are talking about the degree to which a product, device, service, environment or facility is usable by as many people as possible, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly and persons with disabilities. However, this objective can only be achieved by designing products and services and facilitating an environment that is readily usable, which will not exclude vulnerable groups, or by making products or services adaptable to different users, by means of standardized provision, that is compatible with special products and services for disadvantaged groups. Hence the time has come, when we can no longer accept public buildings without railings, or with long, steep flights of stairs, without ramps, automatic doors and similar obstacles that have the potential to marginalize some sectors of our society. No, we cannot be selfish as we have to include special considerations for not only the able-bodied but also elderly citizens and those who are differently able and the solution is the adoption and use of standards and best international practices by local establishments and businesses, which will certainly ensure access for all.

In all parts of the world, International Standards are used to efficiently and effectively come up with solutions to deal with the growing challenges associated with accessibility. It therefore means that we as Guynes must start with using the right designs for our buildings. Next, we must establish, implement and enforce our national building codes which will guide stakeholders in the construction of both public and private buildings that have the necessary facilities that will constitute accessibility. When we talk about accessibility, we must also focus on our transportation sector. In Guyana today, there are operators of public transportation that by-pass the elderly and the differently able on our roads and there have been numerous complaints and letters in the media, highlighting incidents of mistreatment of these vulnerable groups. There are drivers who fail to slow down as those persons who are physically handicapped can cross the road without fear of being knocked down. This is totally unacceptable and as we celebrate World Standards Day under this very timely and relevant theme, I want to use the opportunity to appeal to all our citizens to be kind especially to our vulnerable groups in society.

But, fellow Guyanese, accessibility has broad application. Let me share this with you… As Government, we fully understand the concept and would wish that all our citizens can also have access to the latest technologies and innovation that are available with respect to the use of computers and the world wide web.

Recently, His Excellency the President launched his initiative to make computers and the internet available to as many households as possible in the country and will follow through on his plan shortly when the distribution of laptops will commence. I acknowledge that we may not be able to make everything available at the same time, but I can assure you that it is Government’s objective to improve the quality of life of the entire population through the use of technology and standardization.

With respect to education, we are proud to say that students in Guyana have access to education from Nursery to University and every day we are working towards improving current strategies, to enhance the quality of education that is delivered to our school children and the same objectives are true for both public and private establishments and businesses, which will certainly ensure access for all.

In conclusion, as we celebrate World Standards Day today, we should all keep in our minds, whether we are importers, manufacturers, civil servants or colleagues, the importance of standards is very important to all of us. Standards can enhance the quality of our lives, and particularly the lives of older citizens of Guyana, that standards are very necessary for the elderly and persons with disabilities. They can also reduce all discrimination and, at the same time, generate user-friendly products and services for the entire population.
The Laboratory Services Department of the GNBS continued to provide valuable service to industry in the area of calibration. During the fourth quarter of 2010, 69 devices were submitted for calibration and these came from Industries, Health Sector and the Public. In addition, four (7) moisture meters and eight (7) gold calibration samples were tested.

Training Programme – Mr. Vishnu Maharaj, Laboratory Technician 1 and Mr. Chandradat Persaud, Technician 1 participated in a three week training programme which aimed at improving knowledge and skills necessary for conducting testing activities in the area of textiles and footwear. As a result of the training, Officers are now able to conduct various quality tests of textiles and footwear. Training on these aspects has increased the capacity of the Guyana National Bureau of Standards to implement the monitoring of compliance with National Standards in the area of Textiles and Footwear.

Workshop on Measurement Uncertainty – A four day workshop “Estimation of measurement uncertainty for the calibration of weighing instruments”, for laboratory personnel of CARICOM member states was organized by CROSQ in collaboration with the German Metrology Institute (FTB) and IAC in Austria.

The workshop took place at the Grand Beach Resort conference room in Grenada, during the period of October 26 to 29, 2010. The workshop was held in order to assist the national metrology institutes within the Caricom Region, develop uncertainty budgets for calibration of weighing instruments and to build the competency of the laboratories in the area of balance calibration. Guyana was represented at the workshop by Vishnu Maharaj.

I would also like to commend the Guyana National Bureau of Standards for its outstanding contributions in the field of standardization. The success of the work of the Bureau of Standards hinges on the commitment of its stakeholders such as manufacturers, service providers both in the public and private sectors, our policy makers and ultimately, you as consumers. To make things happen, do not hesitate to contact us and I can assure you that in Guyana, national Bureau of Standards is always ready to serve you.

WORLD STANDARDS DAY – Minister’s Message

We want to thank you for your contribution, not only in observing Standards day but every day of the year. Seek out and extend a helping hand, to that visually impaired person or the elderly lady who wants to cross the street, and I can assure you that we in Guyana would realize the value of Accessibilty for all.