

# Container Weight Verification

What is required and why?

# Introduction

- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- 171 Member States bound by accepted rules of engagement
- IMO Convention

*“To provide machinery for cooperation among Governments in the field of governmental regulation and practices relating to technical matters of all kinds affecting shipping engaged in international trade”*
- Maritime NZ is NZ Compliance Agency responsible for shipping

## Cargo requirements – the past

- SOLAS has required written confirmation of cargo documentation for safe carriage and stowage for many decades.
- Maritime Rule Part 24B provided for existing requirements relating to cargo information which has always included declaration of gross mass.
- Unfortunately shipping casualties continued to occur due to mis-declared cargo.

# Risks with international cargo carriage





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# International requirements

- SOLAS Convention
  - Chapter VI, Part A, Reg 2 amended in 2014 to impose requirements to ensure verified gross mass on shipping documentation
    - *“The shipper of a container shall ensure the verified gross mass is stated in the shipping document.”*
    - *“If the shipping document...to a packed container...does not provide the verified gross mass....it shall not be loaded on to the ship”*
- Maritime Rule Part 24B amended to require verification of gross mass



# Methods of compliance

- Obligation is on the shipper
- Two methods of achieving compliance:
  - Weighing the packed container using calibrated and certified equipment

OR

- Weighing all packaged and cargo items including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other securing material to be packed into the container and adding this to the tare mass of the container using a method acceptable to the Director of MNZ.

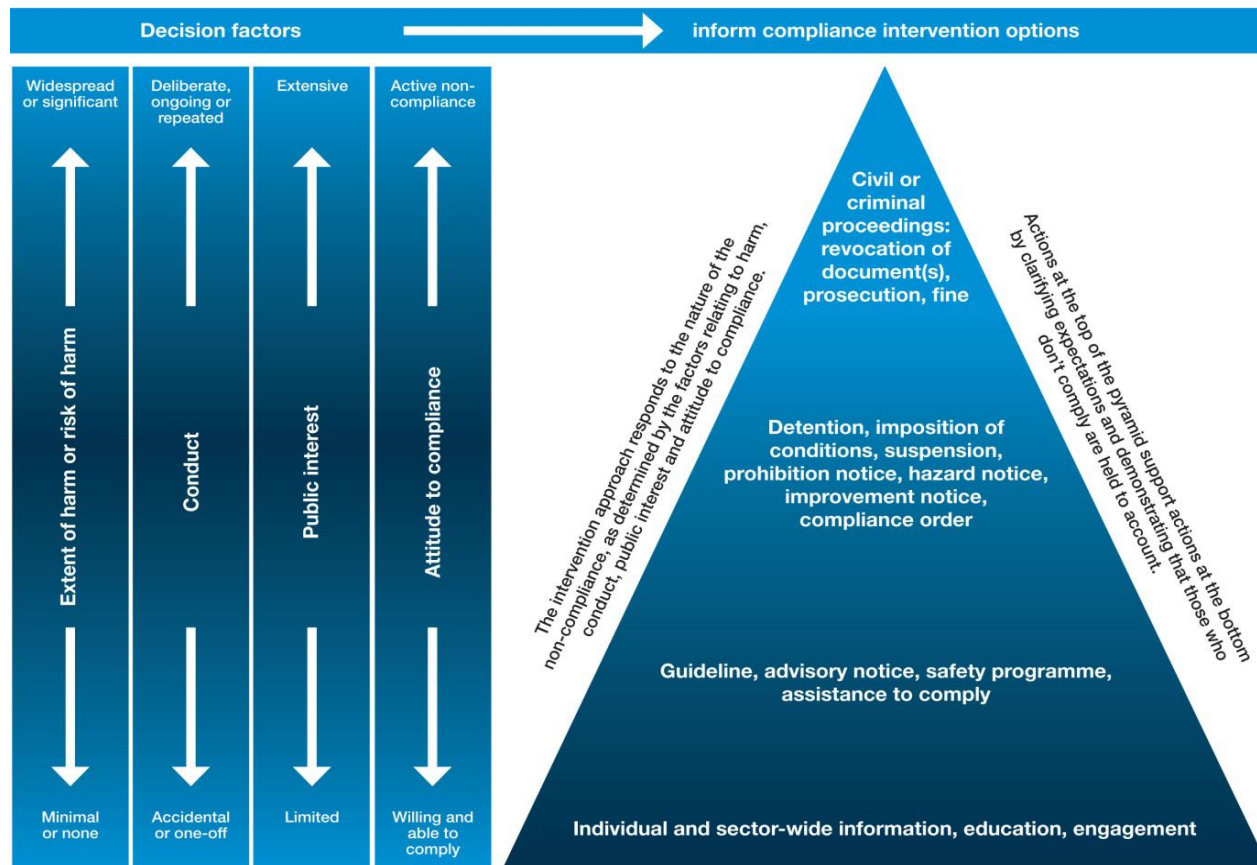


## Practical arrangements

- Port operators have developed a simple and consistent approach to achieve a nationally uniform approach.
- Ports will generally not be weighing containers at container terminals.
- MBIE approves and certifies weighing equipment throughout NZ including weighbridges.

# Maritime NZ compliance approach

## Intervention Decision Guide



## Conclusions

- Visit MNZ site for more information
- Specific guidance on stowage and packing of container:  
[http://www.ilo.org/sector/Resources/codes-of-practice-and-guidelines/WCMS\\_356987/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/sector/Resources/codes-of-practice-and-guidelines/WCMS_356987/lang-en/index.htm)
- International engagement see:  
<http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/IMO/>