

## Scale and Tool Calibration Information Sheet

Appropriate and calibrated tools are required at each location in order to comply with the Quality Assurance Program (QAP). As a minimum this includes at least one four-corner scale and torque wrenches, but may include a greater amount of tools depending on the work performed at each dealer location.

### Four-Corner Scales

NHTSA requires that load carrying capacity measurements are made using a scale that has an accuracy of one percent (1%) of the scale reading and that the calibration is traceable to NIST (US Sales) or Measurements Canada (Canada sales).

The calibration interval of the scale set shall be no greater than one year. Scale pads are comprised of sensitive electro-mechanical devices and recalibration of the scale should be performed if there has been any adverse handling of the scale set (ex. dropped or damaged).

Four-corner scales can be purchased from any scale vendor or manufacturer, but must meet the minimum requirement for weight capacity. NMEDA recommends that each wheel pad have a capacity of 2,500 lbs. or more (10,000 lbs. total capacity), but at minimum must have the capacity to accurately weigh all vehicles that the dealer sells and/or modifies.

### Torque Wrenches

Torque wrenches are used to comply with mobility equipment manufacturer's installation instructions. A dealer is required to have capable tools for every piece of equipment installed. In many cases that means that a dealer will need multiple torque wrenches as each torque wrench has a specific torque range and size. For example, if a manufacturer's installation instructions require one piece of hardware to be tightened to 15 inch-pounds, and another at 70 foot-pounds, it is likely the dealer will need two separate calibrated tools because one tool alone may not have a range capable of accommodating each torque value. The calibration interval shall be as recommended by the tool manufacturer and calibration traceable to NIST (or Measurements Canada).

### Meters and Gages

Tools such as volt-ohm meters, ammeters, capacitance-meters, or the combination type multi-meters, as well as pressure gages and the like are required to be calibrated only when precise (quantitative) measurements are called out by the mobility equipment manufacturer. For example, if a dealer is installing a piece of high-tech equipment that asks the installer to measure 3.4 Vdc +/- 0.2 Vdc, or something like 200 mA +/- 3.0 mA as part of the instruction, a calibrated tool is required. On the other hand, if a dealer is using a meter to troubleshoot or to check continuity or nominal automotive voltages there is no requirement to have a calibrated meter. A best practice is to have all measurement tools calibrated.

## **Personal vs. Company Owned Tools**

NMEDA does not discriminate whose tools are used. The requirement is that the tool used is appropriate for the job and calibrated when applicable. Example, if each technician uses his/her own torque wrenches, then every technician's torque wrenches should be calibrated.

## **Co-mingling of calibrated and un-calibrated tools**

NOT RECOMMENDED. The best practice is all measurement tools in the shop, company owned or personal are calibrated.

If a dealer has multiple work area's that employ multiple technicians and some tools are calibrated and some are not calibrated, then the dealer must provide objective evidence to NMEDA that only calibrated tools are being used as required. This means that the dealer must have a documented process in place and part of their Quality Control Manual (approved by NMEDA) that shows how tool management is accomplished. Failure to employ this type of process without written approval from NMEDA is a violation of QAP.

## **Evidence of Calibration**

A physical or electronic calibration certificate is the most widely used form of evidence. This certificate is provided from the equipment manufacturer at point of initial sale, or by the calibration service provider. Note that most tools do not come calibrated, so always ask when purchasing equipment if there is evidence of calibration. Many retail stores provide calibration, but only when requested. The calibration certificate must show traceability to one of the industry standards NIST or Measurements Canada. Some calibration service providers offer web-based or electronic certificates and these are all acceptable forms of evidence. The dealer must also be able to show traceability from the certificate to the tool, that can be accomplished by using the tool's serial number or a permanently affixed identification such as a label, scribe, or etched unique identifier (ID). If a tool does not have a serial number, the dealer is responsible to provide the needed identification.

## **Where to Buy and/or Calibrate Scales or Tools**

NMEDA does not endorse or otherwise promote any particular tool manufacturer or calibration service provider, however, the companies listed are knowledgeable about NMEDA and some provide discounts to NMEDA members. Make sure to identify yourself as a NMEDA member when ordering and always ask for a calibration certificate to be provided that shows traceability to NIST (or Measurements Canada).

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## Scale Manufacturers

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### Longacre Racing Products

Gary Lewis

(800) 423-3110

[garyl@longacreracing.com](mailto:garyl@longacreracing.com)

[www.longacreracing.com](http://www.longacreracing.com)

let them know you are a NMEDA member  
for the special pricing recommended  
scale set: Elite Wired (part# 52-82663)  
3500lb/pd (ask for NIST calibration cert)

### Proform

Specialty Auto Parts U.S.A, Inc.

Booth Platt

(586) 774-2500

[info@proformparts.com](mailto:info@proformparts.com)

[www.proformparts.com](http://www.proformparts.com)

Proform offers low profile, wireless scales and ramps,  
tell them you want the NMEDA discount.

Recommended scale set: 14K Wireless Scale System  
(part# 67641)

(Ask for Calibration Certificate with the order)

### Intercomp Company

Chris Zins or Bryce Mohs

(763) 476-2531

3839 County Road 116

Medina, MN 55340

[info@intercompcompany.com](mailto:info@intercompcompany.com)

[www.intercompcompany.com](http://www.intercompcompany.com)

[www.intercompracing.com](http://www.intercompracing.com)

let them know you are a NMEDA member  
for discounted pricing

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## Calibration Service Providers

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**Scales** (\*\*calibration provided on-site):

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### Mettler-Toledo\*\*

Chad Birkas

(614) 438-4552

[chad.birkas@mt.com](mailto:chad.birkas@mt.com)

*tell them you are a NMEDA member, there is a contract  
rate that depends on your proximity in miles from the  
service center*

### The Scale People Inc.\*\*

Dean McIntee

(410) 309-5880

[dean@scalepeople.com](mailto:dean@scalepeople.com)

*tell them you are a NMEDA member*

### Intercomp Company

John Diekman or Chris Zins

(763) 476-2531

[customerservice@intercompcompany.com](mailto:customerservice@intercompcompany.com)

3839 County Road 116

Medina, MN 55340

*calibrations done by local scale dealer, call Intercomp to  
ask for scale dealer in your local area. Pricing is determined  
by local scale dealer. Most will calibrate all scale types, not  
only Intercomp*

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## Torque Wrenches, Meters, and Gages:

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### Transcat

Peter Hadeed

(585) 471-6147

[peter.hadeed@transcat.com](mailto:peter.hadeed@transcat.com)

*\*\*must contact Peter to receive NMEDA member discount. You may drop off tools to local lab or mail in. list of lab locations [here](#).*

### Integrated Service Solutions (ISS)

Allison Nace

(610) 287-3433

[a.nace@integrationservicesolutions.com](mailto:a.nace@integrationservicesolutions.com)

*\*\*This is a ship to location, all calibrations are performed at their location in PA, the dealer is responsible for shipping arrangements*

### EML Calibration

Jeff Goble

(610) 287-3433

318 Seaboard Lane,

Suite 106

Franklin, TN 37067

[Jeff.goble@eml1.com](mailto:Jeff.goble@eml1.com)

*\*\*This is a ship to location, all calibrations are performed at their location in TN, the dealer is responsible for shipping arrangements*

### TMI Calibration

Cameron Floyd

(813) 992-2602

[cameron.floyd@tmicalibration.com](mailto:cameron.floyd@tmicalibration.com)

<https://www.tmiclibration.com/>

*\*\*TMI has multiple locations across the US, call or visit the website for specific locations. Some locations have local carry in services and can calibrate tools and scales.*

### Alternative Sources:

Some Tool stores such as Snap-on, Lowes, Home Depot and Sears offer calibration at additional cost and most likely need to send out (varies by location).

Some tools come with 1-year calibration, ask the store salesperson for confirmation and make sure there is a certificate in the owner's manual or comes with the product before purchasing