

"Commercial" Use of Shipping Scales

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[Back to Table of Contents](#)

 [NIST Handbook 44](#)
Sec. 2.20, Table 7a

Code Interpretation

What determines "commercial" use of a shipping scale? Are all shipping scales commercial devices?

Table 7a of the Scale Code of Handbook 44 stipulates "postal Scales" as Class III devices and should be interpreted as including all commercial shipping scales.

Factors that indicate "commercial use" of a shipping scale include:

1. The scale is used by the business to determine the cost of the service (shipping, packaging, handling, etc.).
2. Representation that service cost is based on weight.
3. The service provider is open to the public.

Businesses determining shipping costs for "in house" shipping, i.e. one plant or office location to another, is not considered commercial even when using an outside shipper.