Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Treasury

§ 25.35 Equipment

EQUIPMENT

§ 25.35 Tanks.

Each stationary tank, vat, cask or other container used, or intended for use, as a receptacle for wort, beer or concentrate produced from beer shall:

(a) Be durably marked with a serial number and capacity; and

(b) Be equipped with a suitable measuring device. The brewer may provide meters or other suitable portable devices for measuring contents of tanks or containers in lieu of providing each tank or container with a measuring device.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85–859, 72 Stat. 1395, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5552))

§ 25.36 Empty container storage.

Empty barrels, kegs, bottles, other containers, or other supplies stored in the brewery will be segregated from filled containers.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85–859, 72 Stat. 1389, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5411))

Subpart E—Measurement of Beer

§ 25.41 Measuring system required.

The brewer shall accurately and reliably measure the quantity of beer transferred from the brewery cellars for bottling and for racking. The brewer may use a measuring device, such as a meter or gauge glass, or any other suitable method.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85–859, 72 Stat. 1389, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5411))

§ 25.42 Testing of measuring devices.

(a) General requirements. If a measuring device such as a meter or gauge glass is used to measure beer, the brewer shall periodically test the measuring device and adjust or repair it, if necessary. The brewer shall keep records of tests available for inspection by appropriate TTB officers. Records of tests will include:

(1) Date of test;
(2) Identity of meter or measuring device;
(3) Result of test; and
(4) Corrective action taken, if necessary.

(b) Requirements for beer meters. The allowable variation for beer meters as established by testing may not exceed ±0.5 percent. If a meter test discloses an error in excess of the allowable variation, the brewer shall immediately adjust or repair the meter. Adjustments will reduce the error to as near zero as practicable.

(c) Authority to require tests. If the appropriate TTB officer has reason to believe that the accuracy or reliability of a measuring device is not being properly maintained, he or she may require the brewer to test the measuring device and, if necessary, adjust or repair the measuring device.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85–859, 72 Stat. 1395, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5552))

Subpart F—Miscellaneous Provisions

§ 25.51 Right of Entry and Examination.

An appropriate TTB officer may enter, during normal business hours, a brewery or other place where beer is stored and may, when the premises are open at other times, enter those premises in the performance of official duties. Appropriate TTB officers may make inspections as the appropriate TTB officer deems necessary to determine that operations are conducted in compliance with the law and this part. The owner of any building or place where beer is produced, made, or kept, or person having charge over such premises, who refuses to admit an appropriate TTB officer acting under 26 U.S.C. 7606, or who refuses to permit an appropriate TTB officer to examine beer must, for each refusal, forfeit $500.

(T.D. ATF–437, 66 FR 5478, Jan. 19, 2001)

§ 25.52 Variations from requirements.

(a) Exceptions to construction, equipment and methods of operations—(1) General. The appropriate TTB officer may approve details of construction, equipment or methods of operations, in lieu of those specified in this part. The brewer shall show that it is impracticable to conform to the prescribed specification, and that the proposed variance:

(i) Will afford the protection to the revenue intended by the specifications in this part;

(ii) Will safeguard against fraud; and

(iii) Will not result in an unfair advantage to one brewer over other similarly situated brewers. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85–859, 72 Stat. 1395, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5552))