



MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 19 - 09 " ]  
Series of 2019

**To** : All Manufacturers and Importers of Steel Products Covered by  
DAO 18-08 Series of 2018 and Others Concerned

**SUBJECT** : Supplemental Guidelines for the Implementation of DAO 18-08  
Series of 2018

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**WHEREAS**, the Department Administrative Order (DAO) 18-08 Series of 2018 took effect on 06 January 2019, the objective of which is to strictly ensure that steel products comply with the specified safety and/or quality requirement/s as prescribed therein.

**WHEREAS**, the affected parties consisting of manufacturers and importers expressed their support in the intention of the Department of Trade and Industry to ensure consumer protection through mandatory certification of steel products;

**WHEREAS**, as provided in the transitory provisions (Rule 24.5) of DAO 18-08, all manufacturers shall comply with the new requirements on embossed markings prescribed herein, particularly for steel grade, micro-alloy or quench and tempered bars, six (6) months after the effectivity in the said DAO, or on 06 July 2019;

**WHEREAS**, a revised edition of PNS 49 or the Philippine National Standard (PNS) 49:2019 - Steel bars for concrete reinforcement – Specification was promulgated on January 2019 prescribing new requirements on steel grades and markings, among others;

**WHEREAS**, a group of manufacturers requested the department to give them more time to adjust to the new requirements as well to possibly consider the requirements of the revised edition of PNS 49 in the technical regulations:

**WHEREAS**, considering the request made by the industry, Memorandum Circular (MC) 19-04 Series of 2019 was issued extending the implementation of the new embossed markings for steel bars until 05 September 2019 and the effectivity date of market monitoring and enforcement of the new embossed markings for steel bars moved to 06 September 2020;

**WHEREAS**, to further simplify the prescribed markings for easier compliance and monitoring, the steel bar manufacturers requested an alternative embossed markings relative to the mandatory implementation of the new marking requirements prescribed by DAO 18-08 series of 2018;

**WHEREFORE**, foregoing premises considered, additional guidelines are hereby issued to supplement the implementation of DAO 18-08 series of 2018 and MC 19-04 series of 2019 as follows:

### 1. Marking

- 1.1 The embossed markings for the steel grades of steel bars under Rule 10.1.2 of DAO 18-08 series of 2018 shall be as follows:

Grade	Acceptable Marking
230	"230" or "2"
275	"275" or "3"
415	"415" or "4"

- 1.2 The embossed symbols for Micro Alloy or Quenched and Tempered steel bars under Rule 10.1.4 of DAO 18-08 series of 2018 shall be used as follows:

Manufacturing Process	Acceptable Marking
Micro Alloy	"MA" or "A"
Quenched and Tempered	"QT", "Q" or "T"

### 2. Sampling

- 2.1 Mechanical Test – the sampling requirements prescribed in Rule 7.3 of DAO 18-08 series of 2018 shall apply.

- 2.2 Chemical Test – two (2) sets of one (1) piece of steel bars shall be randomly drawn per type, per grade, per size, per thickness. Samples from the drawn steel bars shall be prepared accordingly.

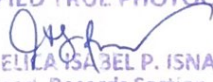
First set shall be sent to the BPS recognized laboratory for testing. The second set shall be reserved for re-testing or future reference consistent with Rule 8.5 of the DAO 18-08. The test result of the tested sample shall determine the steel product's conformance to the Chemical Test.

### 3. Market Monitoring and Enforcement

Market monitoring and enforcement by the Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau (FTEB) shall continue under DAO 18-08 subject to the following conditions as enunciated in MC 19-04:

- 3.1 All steel bars in the retail market found to be non-conforming to the new markings prescribed shall be confiscated. No penalties, however, shall be imposed on retailers during the first offense, until September 06, 2020

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Head, Records Section  
Department of Trade & Industry

3.2 Regular penalties shall be imposed for the second offense onwards subject to the usual administrative process of the FTEB whether found before or after September 06, 2020

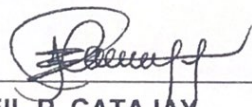
#### 4. Effectivity

This Memorandum Circular shall be effective immediately after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation, a copy of which shall be submitted to the UP Office of National Administrative Register.

For the information and guidance of those concerned.

Done in the City of Makati this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year 2019.

Recommended by:

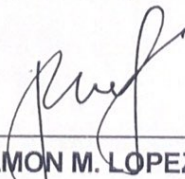


NEIL P. CATAJAY  
Officer-in-Charge, BPS



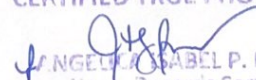
ATTY. RUTH B. CASTELO  
Undersecretary, CPG

Approved by:



RAMON M. LOPEZ  
Secretary

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