



MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 20-42
Series of 2020

To : All Manufacturers and Importers of Cement Products Covered and Others Concerned

Subject : SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DAO 17-06, SERIES OF 2017

WHEREAS, the Department Administrative Order (DAO) 17-06, Series of 2017 was issued and took effect on 29 November 2017, the objective of which is to strictly ensure that cement products comply with the specified safety and/or quality requirement/s as prescribed therein;

WHEREAS, the reference Philippine National Standards (PNS) for cement, PNS 07 for portland cement and PNS 63 for blended hydraulic cement were updated by the BPS Technical Committee in order to align these standards to the latest international standards;

WHEREAS, due to the updates on the reference standards, Memorandum Circular (MC) 19-11, Series of 2019 was issued on 20 December 2019 and took effect on 17 January 2020, prescribing the latest editions of the PNS for portland cement and blended hydraulic cement as the reference PNS for purposes of implementing mandatory certification of cement products consistent with DAO 17-06:2017;

WHEREAS, Section 1.2 of MC 19-11:2019 requires all local and foreign manufacturers of cement products to comply with the marking requirements consistent with the new reference standards six (6) months after the date of its effectivity, or on 17 July 2020.

WHEREAS, on 16 March 2020, the President declared a state of public health emergency through Presidential Proclamation No. 922, Series of 2020 to address the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) threat, subsequently placing the whole Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ). Other similar orders were subsequently issued extending the implementation of the community quarantine until to date;

WHEREAS, due to this public health emergency, all non-essential business operations, to include cement manufacturing or distribution were stopped and/or allowed subject to the limitations prescribed in the various Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (MEID) issued guidelines;

WHEREAS, due to the stopped or limited business operations, most of the cement manufacturers and/or importers were unable to fully utilize their remaining inventories of old cement bags bearing the markings prescribed in the old PNS within the six (6) months transition period;

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Prof. [Name]', located on the right side of the page.

WHEREAS, Rule 23 of DAO 17-06, series of 2017 specifically stipulates that "BPS may issue such guidelines/procedures as may be necessary in the implementation of this Order";

WHEREFORE, foregoing premises considered, the following guidelines shall be implemented:

1. All local and foreign cement manufacturers, with existing valid PS Licenses shall comply with the requirements of DAO 17-06:2017, using PNS 07:2018 Amd 01:2019 for portland cement and PNS 63:2019 for blended hydraulic cement as reference standards, effective 17 July 2021;
2. All local and foreign manufacturers should apply for voluntary compliance with the new requirements at any time until 17 July 2021, provided that when the new PNS 07:2018 Amd 01:2019 or PNS 63:2019 is reflected in the cement bag markings, the same PNS shall be used as reference in the conduct of product testing to verify conformance. All applications shall be submitted online through the Product Certification Information Management System (PCIMS);
3. For local manufacturers, conformance to the new requirements shall be verified through the conduct of surveillance audit at the factory. The amended PS License Certificate shall be issued immediately after satisfactory result of the surveillance audit;
4. For foreign manufacturers, conformance to the new requirements shall be verified through the conduct of surveillance audit on the next import shipment immediately after the submission of on-line application. The amended PS License Certificate shall be issued immediately after satisfactory result of the surveillance audit;
5. Pending submission of on-line applications and/or issuance of amended PS License Certificate, all cement products shall comply with the requirements of DAO 17-06:2017, compliance shall be verified using the PNS 07:2005 and PNS 63:2006 as reference standards for portland and blended cements respectively;
6. Market monitoring and enforcement to ensure that all cement products covered by DAO 17-06:2017 distributed in the local market bears the new marking requirements shall commence twelve (12) months after the mandatory implementation of the new requirements or on 17 July 2022. All non-compliant products shall be subject to the following:
 - a. First Offense – Notice of Violation shall be issued but retailers/distributors shall only be advised to pull-out the items from the selling area.
 - b. Second Offense onwards – Notice of Violation shall be issued subject to the regular adjudication process.
7. All provisions of MC 19-11, Series of 2019 inconsistent with this Circular are considered repealed or amended.



This Circular shall be effective immediately after its publication in a national 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 all concerned.

Done in the City of Makati this 24 day of July in the year 2020.

Recommended by:

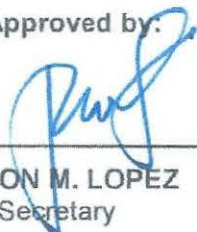


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Approved by:



RAMON M. LOPEZ
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