

Weights and Measures Testing Unit Replacement**FY2003 Request: \$200,000****Reference No: 32605****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Transportation**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Aves Thompson**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)345-7750**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2002 - 06/30/2007**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Weights and Measures equipment which is beyond it's useable service life.

Funding:	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$200,000						\$200,000
Total:	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

FY 2002 - \$60,000 was appropriated for one light purpose vehicle.

Project Description/Justification:**METROLOGY LABORATORY:**

- 50 gallon prover and miscellaneous equipment for Juneau -\$5,000 (includes prover, shipping and miscellaneous equipment). This will support volumetric testing in Juneau. Currently any prover in Southeast must be shipped to Anchorage for testing and certification. A tested and certified prover is required for the testing and certification of flow meters in the fuel industry (often a contract requirement for suppliers). Prover testing in Juneau would support this function in southeast Alaska, thereby eliminating the added cost of shipping these artifacts to Anchorage.
- 70 LB balance - \$10,000. (replace SR32001) The existing balance is very close to being out side of acceptable tolerances. This particular balance is not repairable, and needs full replacement. This is currently one of the most frequently used balances in the laboratory, and critical for testing weights used to test industry scales.
- Digital thermometer for volume lab - \$2,000. Currently liquid in glass thermometers are used, which are difficult to read and a likely source of error in the measurement process. Digital thermometry offers faster and more accurate readings, and would therefor increase the efficiency of volumetric testing.
- 500kg balance (for Juneau) \$20,000. This will support the tolerance testing of test weights in the Juneau laboratory. The previous balance used for this purpose is not repairable, thereby requiring that weights be shipped to Anchorage for testing and certification.
- Lift system for 25/50 LB weights \$5,000-\$10,000. A problem identified by Metrologists nation wide is that of bodily injury from repeated lifting and manipulation of 25 and 50 pound test weights. This funding will support a system to eliminate strain on the body in manipulating these weights by implementing an ergonomic system to perform the testing process.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES FIELD TESTING EQUIPMENT

1. 3 EACH - 500-gallon trailer mounted provers @ \$14,375 totaling \$43,125 located in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. This equipment will be used to enhance or supplement the large meter-testing program in each of the areas.
2. 3 each - 15,000 GVW flat bed trucks @ \$50,000, total \$150,000 located in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. These vehicles will be used to enhance or supplement the scale testing programs.
3. 1 each - 15,000 GVW prover truck for Juneau @ \$75,000. This is to replace the 1980 current unit. This vehicle has high mileage; is high maintenance and has safety issues regarding the operation.
4. 4 each - package testing scales @ \$2,500, total \$10,000. This is to replace our package testing scales that were purchased in the 1980's which are outdated and cannot be repaired due to the age and condition of the current equipment.
5. One (1) Weights & Measures Large Scale Testing Unit @ \$200,000, which is a replacement of a large scale testing unit that is used for testing truck, contractor, freight and fishing scales. This truck carries 10,000 pounds of known test weights and has a hydraulic boom to facilitate the movement of the weights onto and off of the scales. This unit is used throughout Southeast Alaska and travels extensively on the Alaska Marine Highway System. The current vehicle is a 1980 International weight truck equipped to carry 10,000 pounds of certified standards. The current mileage is 50,000 and the weight truck has approximately 150,000 miles on the engine because it must run while loading/unloading the test weights. Due to the unavailability of repair parts and safety concerns we can no longer make expensive repairs. This vehicle's overall condition is poor and is a safety concern to the driver and the motoring public. This vehicle serves as a multi-purpose scale-testing unit that services all of the communities in Southeast Alaska. If funding is not approved, commercial scales in Southeast may not be certified. The Division's resources are limited; we simply do not have another vehicle to relocate to the Division's Southeast field office. Estimated vehicle replacement: \$200,000. Should this vehicle break down and cannot be repaired in a timely fashion, devices owners will become non-compliant with AS 45.75 which could lead to misrepresentation and/or injustice to the purchasing public. Inspection and testing of commercial weighing measuring devices used in the marketplace is the only way to protect the buying public from overcharges due to inaccurate measurements.