

National Metric Day

October 10

ADVICE TO EXPORTERS.

Importance of Using the Metric System in Making Prices.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Frank D. Hill, United States Consul at Amsterdam, in a communication to the State Department, says: "The necessity for United States manufacturers to adopt the metric system in foreign trade becomes daily more imperative. A firm in Holland received this week a cable offer from New York for 2,000 barrels of potatoes. As this was a new business, the question at once arose how many pounds were there in a barrel of potatoes—American pounds, too, as the Dutch pound differs from ours. A whole day was lost before the answer could be wired. Had the offer been made in kilograms, every business man in the commercial world from Vladivostock to Mauritius would have understood it instantly."

The New York Times

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Each year, the week containing 10 October — the tenth day of the tenth month — is called 'National Metric Week' by the United States Metric Association (USMA) and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM).

See <http://lamar.colostate.edu/~hillger/metric-week.html> for details.