

**2002 No. 506**

**HALLMARK**

**The Hallmarking (International Convention) Order 2002**

*Made* - - - - - *7th March 2002*

*Laid before Parliament* *7th March 2002*

*Coming into Force* - - *1st April 2002*

The Secretary of State in exercise of her powers under sections 2(1)(c), 2(3) and 21(1) of the Hallmarking Act 1973(a) (hereinafter called “the Act”) hereby makes the following Order:

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Hallmarking (International Convention) Order 2002, and shall come into force on the 1st April 2002.

(2) The Hallmarking (International Convention) Order 1976(b) is hereby revoked.

2. In this Order “the Convention” means the Convention on the Control and Marking of Articles of Precious Metals done at Vienna on 15th November 1972.

3.—(1) The following marks are designated for the purposes of section 2 of the Act as marks recognised pursuant to the Convention, that is to say—

(a) except in a case in which the number is applied to the article by a person other than an assay office authorised as mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) below, a number in Arabic numerals indicating the standard of fineness of an article being—

(i) in the case of gold, 750, 585 or 375;

(ii) in the case of silver, 800 or 925; and

(iii) in the case of platinum, 950;

(b) a mark which has been notified in accordance with the Convention as being the mark of an assay office authorised for the purposes of the Convention in the territory of a Contracting State other than the United Kingdom;

(c) The Common Control Mark comprising a number specified in sub-paragraph (a) above.

(2) The Common Control Mark consists of the representation of a balance together with the number in Arabic numerals showing the standard of fineness of the article in relief on a lined background surrounded by a shield indicating the nature of the precious metal. The shields are illustrated in Part I of Schedule 1 hereto; and examples of the Common Control Mark are illustrated in Part II of that Schedule.

(3) The marks referred to in paragraph (1)(b) are illustrated in Schedule 2 hereto.

4. Every mark, being the name of a person who submits articles for hallmarking, or an abbreviation thereof or a symbol indicating such a person which has been entered in the official register of a Contracting State other than the United Kingdom, or in the official register of an authorised assay office in the territory of such a Contracting state, is designated—

(a) as a mark recognised pursuant to the Convention; and

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(a) 1973 c. 43, as amended by The Hallmarking (Hallmarking Act Amendment) Regulations 1988 S.I. 1998/2978.

(b) S.I. 1976/730; as amended by S.I. 1981/559, 1983/1608, 1984/1131, 1987/1892, 1988/2286, 1995/2488 and S.I. 1998/2978.

(b) as a sponsor's mark for the purposes of the Act.

**5.—(1)** A person submitting an article for hallmarking to an assay office in the United Kingdom authorised for the purposes of the Convention may request the assay office to strike the article with the marks specified in Article 3(1)(a) and (c) above whether or not the article bears or is to bear other approved hallmarks, and (subject to the provisions of the Act and, in particular, section 4 as having effect in the manner indicated in paragraph (2) of this Article) the assay office shall give effect to any such request; and the following provisions of this Article shall apply:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall require an assay office to strike an article with the mark specified in Article 3(1)(a) if the article already bears approved hallmarks struck in the United Kingdom which include the mark so specified.

(2) Section 4 of the Act shall have effect in relation to the striking of such specified marks as if—





- (a) subsection (1)(a)(ii) required the striking on the article of the marks specified in Article 3(1)(a) (subject to the proviso in paragraph (1) of this Article), and in Article 3(1)(c), instead of the standard mark;
- (b) subsection (1)(a)(iii) were omitted;
- (c) the words in subsection (1) (“and, as respects all such articles” to the end of the subsection and Part IV of Schedule 2 to the Act, did not apply in relation to the Common Control Mark;
- (d) in subsection (2) the reference to subsection (1)(a)(iii) were omitted;
- (e) in subsection (3), in head (c) of the proviso to paragraph b(i) “585” were substituted for “500”, and in paragraph (b)(iii), “995” were substituted for “the standard of fineness of the article”;
- (f) in paragraph 4 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Act—
  - (i) in subparagraph (c), for the words “struck only with the standard mark for the metal of which those parts are made” there were substituted the words “stamped or engraved with a specific designation of the metal”;
  - (ii) the words “and in relation to any article” to the end of paragraph 4 were omitted; and
- (g) in Part III of Schedule 2 to the Act, for paragraph 6(b)(ii) there were substituted the following—
  - “(ii) these materials are used for filling the handle of a knife, fork or spoon and only in such a quantity as is necessary for joining.”

**6.—(1)** A person may submit to an assay office an article wholly or partly of silver with a written request that it be marked as being of a fineness of 830 as respects the article as a whole or its silver parts; and in such a case the following provisions of this Article shall have effect.

(2) Article 5 shall apply as if—

- (a) the number 830 were specified in relation to silver in Article 3(1)(a);
- (b) a new sub-paragraph were added after paragraph 2(e) substituting in section 4(3)(b)(ii) of the Act “550” for “650”.

(3) Where a silver article is struck with the mark indicating a standard of fineness of 830 the article shall be struck with the relevant assay office mark set out below instead of the mark set out in column (2) or (3), as the case may be, of paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Act.

	LONDON		
London . . . . .		. . . . .	A silversmith's hammer with the figure 1 in the bottom left hand corner of the shield.
	EDINBURGH		
Edinburgh . . . . .		. . . . .	A silversmith's hammer with the figure 11 in the top right hand corner of the shield.
	BIRMINGHAM		
Birmingham . . . . .		. . . . .	A silversmith's hammer with the figure 1 in the top right hand corner of the shield.
	SHEFFIELD		
Sheffield . . . . .		. . . . .	A silversmith's hammer with the figure 11 in the bottom left hand corner of the shield.

(4) Marks struck by an assay office on an article submitted in accordance with subparagraph (1) above shall not be approved hallmarks for the purposes of section 2(4)(a) of the Act; and accordingly the article shall be unhallmarked.

7th March 2002

*Patricia Hewitt,*  
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

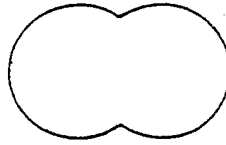
SCHEDULE 1

Article 3(2)

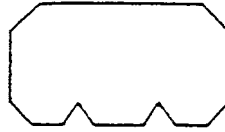
PART I

SIELDS

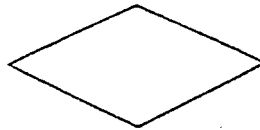
For gold articles



For silver articles



For platinum articles



PART II

EXAMPLES OF THE COMMON CONTROL MARK

For gold articles of the standard of fineness 750



For silver articles of the standard of fineness 925



For platinum articles of the standard of fineness 950



FOREIGN ASSAY OFFICE MARKS

AUSTRIA



CZECH REPUBLIC



DENMARK



P R A H A

CZECH REPUBLIC – CI  
THE CONTROL MARK OF THE  
PRAGUE CZECH REPUBLIC  
ASSAY OFFICE

THE CONTROL MARK OF THE  
DANISH ASSAY OFFICE

FINLAND

1. Articles of precious metals

750

Gold

585

Silver  
925



2. Articles of precious metals exported with standards of fineness other than those recognised by Finnish law

Gold  
375



IRELAND

“1. Articles of precious metals

Gold



Silver



Platinum



“2. Articles made elsewhere

Gold



Silver



Platinum



NETHERLANDS



NORWAY



PORTUGAL

Gold

375

585

750

Lisbon  
Assay  
Office



Oporto  
Assay  
Office



Silver

800

830

925

Lisbon  
Assay  
Office



Oporto  
Assay  
Office



Platinum

950

Lisbon  
Assay Office



Oporto  
Assay Office



SWEDEN

1. For all standards of fineness recognised by the Convention



2. For standards of fineness recognised by the Swedish law, being at least 750 for gold, 830 for silver and 950 for platinum.

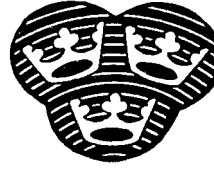
(a) Articles made in Sweden

Gold

small marks



large marks

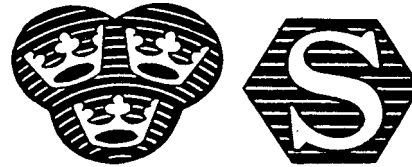


Silver

small marks



large marks



Platinum



(b) Articles made elsewhere

Gold



Silver



Platinum















SWITZERLAND

A. OFFICIAL SWISS CONTROL MARKS

1. Articles of precious metals

Gold		
750 "Helvetia"	585 "Ecoreuil"	375 "Morgenstern"
		
		
Silver		Platinum
925 "Canard"		950 "Bouquetin"
		
		

2. Watch cases of precious metals not originating in Switzerland

750  
"Lynx 1"



Gold  
585  
"Lynx 2"



375  
"Titre bas"



Silver  
925  
"Gentiane 1"



Platinum  
950  
"Tête de lièvre"



3. Articles of precious metals exported with standards of fineness other than those recognised by Swiss law

Gold  
"Bernoise"



Silver  
"Tête d'ours"



## B. DISTINCTIVE MARKS OF THE AUTHORISED SWISS ASSAY OFFICES

The distinctive mark of each office is to be found on all Official Swiss Control Marks at the place marked with a cross in the illustrations above.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Distinctive mark</i>
Berne (Head Office)	+ (Swiss cross)
Bâle-ville	★ (5 pointed star)
Bâle-aéroport	M
Bienne	B
La Chaux-de-Fonds	C
Chiasso	t
Genève-ville	G
Genève-aéroport	A
Granges	g
Lausanne	V
Le Locle	L
Neuchâtel	N
Le Noirmont	n
Romanshorn	R
Schaffhouse	S
Zürich-ville	Z
Zürich-aéroport	K

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order, which is made under the Hallmarking Act 1973 revokes the earlier Hallmarking (International Convention) Order 1976 which implemented the Convention referred to in Article 2.

It recognises convention hallmarks and sponsors marks applied in another convention country; and as a consequence articles bearing such marks will be hallmarked for the purposes of the Act and can therefore be described in the United Kingdom as being of the precious metal (gold, silver or platinum) of which they are made.

The Order also provides for the application in the United Kingdom of similar marks which will be recognised in other convention countries. Articles of fineness of only 830 (accepted by some countries but not by the United Kingdom) may have applied to them marks appropriate to articles of that fineness, but may not be described in the United Kingdom as being of silver unless they are intended for despatch to a destination outside the United Kingdom.

The Order also adds the marks of Netherlands to the list of Foreign Assay Office Marks in Schedule 2.

The Order was notified in draft to the European Commission in accordance with Directive 98/34/EC.

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