

Dear friend,

I am writing to you because I recognise you as a supporter of the metric system. Following our recent communication I wanted to share with you some thoughts about metrication — the process of upgrading to the metric system — and on how I have observed that it happens. It is under two pages and you might read it in less than two minutes.

Who is responsible for metrication?

**The uncomfortable answer is:
you and me!**

When people are confronted with this question it seems that many try to pass the responsibility to someone else with answers like:

- ◇ *the Government has to do something.*
- ◇ *our children need to be taught better.*
- ◇ *the tax system has to be changed.*
- ◇ *we need better regulations.*
- ◇ *it's all the Americans' fault / it's all the Europeans' fault.*

If something goes wrong, or if something is not working, we often try to find someone or something to blame. But it's too easy to blame others; it's too easy to justify a situation in terms of someone else's behaviour.

We won't find a remedy by attacking someone else — and it's definitely not fair to them. As Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th President of the USA, (1858/1919) said:

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

True leaders take responsibility. People who are willing to take responsibility, and to be accountable, are the people who determine success in any field whether it is business, sport, or politics.

We need people who care strongly about the metric system and metrication to take personal responsibility for its development and implementation in all trades, crafts, and industries, and in all the nations of the world. Caring and taking responsibility have different practical meanings depending on our circumstances.

If you and I understand the issues of fair and honest dealings using the metric system then we have a responsibility to personally do whatever is necessary to promote its use. Here are some simple examples about metrication and the metric system that we — you and me — can implement today:

Avoid negative talk	Be open to change	Just do it
Be creative	Create solutions	Learn to break rules
Begin metric discussions	Get involved	Question the status quo
Be innovative	Show initiative	Set an example

Imagine what will happen when thousands of people, each in their own way, take specific steps in moving themselves, their work colleagues, their companies, their industries, or their nations toward full worldwide use of the metric system.

The source of your courage is that you care about the metric system and the process of metrication. Because you care you are able to do difficult things and to take the risks that will lead to your successes.

So do what you care about. If you are willing to lead, you will definitely change our world, and those around will be inspired to follow your example.

Stop waiting for your work group to do something. Stop waiting for your bosses to do something. Stop waiting for your company to do something. Stop waiting for your government to do something.

*If the metric system is to be;
it will always depend on you and me!*

And it's up to each of us who can see the problems and their solutions to take one of the many small steps that need to be taken — right now!

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Best regards for your metric future,

Cheers,

Pat Naughtin

P.S. Don't forget that if you need support or information for your metrication projects you can get information from <http://www.metricationmatters.com> or you can contact me directly at pat.naughtin@metricationmatters.com