1976 No. 239

UNSOLICITED GOODS AND SERVICES

The Unsolicited Goods and Services (Invoices etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976

Made . . . . . *9th August* 1976

Coming into operation . . . *18th October* 1976

The Department of Commerce, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 6 of the Unsolicited Goods and Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1976(a) (in these Regulations referred to as "the Order") and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Unsolicited Goods and Services (Invoices etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976 and shall come into operation on 18th October 1976.

Form and contents of invoices etc

2.—(1) The following provisions specify the requirements with which an invoice or similar document stating the amount of any payment must comply in order that it shall not be regarded as asserting a right to payment for the purposes of the Order.

(2) The paper of the document shall be white and, except as otherwise required in this Regulation, any lettering or other matter printed or written on it shall be either black or dark grey.

(3) There shall be printed on each page of the document in which the amount of any payment is stated notices in the following terms—

(*a*) THIS IS NOT A DEMAND FOR PAYMENT
THERE IS NO OBLIGATION TO PAY

(*b*) THIS IS NOT A BILL

(4) The notice mentioned in paragraph (3)(*a*) shall be conspicuous and shall appear in the top left corner of the page in such a position that there is not less than 12 millimetres or more than 20 millimetres between the left edge of the notice and the left side of the page and between the top of the notice and the top of the page, and no other matter shall appear within 12 millimetres of any part of the notice. Each sentence of the notice shall be printed in one line. The second sentence shall be printed below the first in such a position that the first letter of the second sentence shall be aligned with the first letter of the first sentence. The lettering of the notice shall be not less than 5 millimetres high and the space between the two lines shall be one half of the height of the lettering.

(a) S.I. 1976 No. 57 (N.I. 1)

(5) The notice mentioned in paragraph (3)(*b*) shall appear in such a position that if a straight line were drawn from the bottom left corner to the top right corner of the page it would pass through the centre of each letter in the notice, and the same number of letters would appear on either side of the middle of the line. The notice shall be conspicuous and shall be surrounded on all sides by a clear space of at least 6 millimetres. The lettering of the notice shall be larger than any other lettering on the page and in any event not less than 6 millimetres high.

(6) The spaces between the words of each notice shall be one en of the type size of the notice.

(7) The lettering of each notice shall be—

(*a*) clear, legible and solid

(*b*) of a uniform red in colour;

(*c*) in roman or sanserif upright capital letters of uniform size and without letter spacing; and

(*d*) bolder than any other lettering on the page (other than the lettering of the other notice):

(8) The requirement that the letters shall be of uniform colour and size shall be construed as being subject to the saving that any inconsiderable variation in colour or size may be disregarded.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Commerce for Northern Ireland on 9th August 1976.

(L.S.) *W. T. McCrory*
Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations set out the requirements with which invoices and similar documents must comply if they are not to be regarded as asserting a right to payment for the purposes of the Unsolicited Goods and Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.

The Regulations specify the colour of the paper and of the lettering of any such document, and require two notices to be printed on each page in which the amount of any payment is stated. They also specify the form and position of the notices and other requirements relating to them.