



Liquor and Gaming  
Authority of Manitoba

## GAMING INTEGRITY STANDARDS

### VALUE CHIPS

#### **Background**

The Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba (LGA) regulates licensed and provincial gaming in Manitoba to ensure that gaming is conducted honestly, with integrity and in the public interest. This authority is established by *The Liquor and Gaming Control Act* (the “Act”). All lottery schemes are required to have LGA gaming integrity approval, including approval of any associated gaming equipment. Suppliers intending to provide gaming equipment must be licensed by the LGA. Continued licence approval requires compliance with Gaming Supplier Terms and Conditions, including ensuring that at all times equipment supplied complies with any applicable Gaming Integrity Standards. The LGA reserves the right to amend these standards at any time.

#### **Purpose**

This document is intended to provide regulatory guidance to manufacturers, suppliers and purchasers of gaming equipment by providing Gaming Integrity Standards for value chips, their production and distribution. These standards ensure that gaming equipment used in lottery schemes in the province of Manitoba meet the tests for fairness, honesty, security, safety, and auditability.

#### **Definitions**

The following definitions are provided for use with these standards, the Gaming Integrity Terms and Conditions of approval and quality assurance testing.

1. “Denomination” means the monetary face value of each value chip.
2. “Design Schematic” means a true rendering of the proposed gaming equipment.
3. “Gaming Centre Provider” means a person who, under an agreement with MLLC, owns or operates premises in which MLLC operates provincial gaming.
4. “Gaming Operator” means a person who, under an agreement with MLLC, owns or operates premises in which the person operates provincial gaming.
5. “Lottery Scheme” means a lottery scheme within the meaning of paragraph 207 (4) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).
6. “MLLC” means the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation and is also referred to as the “applicant” or “purchaser”.
7. “Play” means the patron wagers his/her own currency to obtain a chance for realizing a reward.
8. “Primary Set” means a set of chips a gaming operator maintains for use and issues to participants in a table game to place bets and determine winnings.

9. "Provincial Gaming" means a lottery scheme referred to in paragraph 207(1) (a) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).
10. "Secondary Set" means an alternate set of value chips a gaming operator is required to maintain on-site at all times and of different colour(s) than the primary set of value chips.
11. "Value Chip" means a non-metal or partial-metal representative of value that is easily distinguished by colour and is issued by a gaming operator for use in the operation of a table game lottery scheme.

### **LGA Gaming Supplier Licence**

The supplier is required to be a LGA licensed gaming supplier, if their product is intended to be offered for play. The manufacturer may also be required to be a licensed gaming supplier.

### **Gaming Equipment Specifications**

Quality assurance testing is required for gaming integrity approval of the gaming equipment. A design schematic is also required since custom design features are used in the construction of the gaming equipment.

1. The design schematic must be a true rendering showing the following characteristics:
  - a. Dimensions of the chip(s), the inlay and edge spots in metric or imperial measurement
  - b. Edge-spot design
  - c. Base and edge-spot colour (including manufacturer's pantone #, if used)
  - d. Compound type used in the manufacture of the chip, i.e, clay, plastic, etc.
  - e. Compound used for the inlay/slug punch out
  - f. Premises logo and/or name placement and lettering placement
  - g. Actual front/back and edge size
  - h. Any picture or symbol to appear upon the base and/or inlay of the chip
  - i. Style and colour of lettering if embossing, imprinting or engraving is used
  - j. Security features used and their placement on each different denomination of chip
  - k. Mass weight of the chip

The schematic should contain the manufacturer's name, logo, and address; may provide a version number, indicate the brand of chip used; and provide a section for the purchaser to approve and accept the schematic for production.

2. The applicant is required to arrange secure transfer of one complete set of value chips to the LGA for retention, as part of the application for gaming integrity approval.
3. Whenever a shipment is received; the MLLC, gaming operator or gaming centre provider is required to conduct quality assurance testing to ensure the gaming equipment meets the standards and conforms to the approval issued.

The MLLC and the gaming operator or gaming centre provider should also refer to the [LGA Gaming Integrity Application and Approval Requirements](#) for further information and guidelines on the application process.

## **Standards**

At any time value chips do not meet the following standards, the equipment may be returned to the supplier.

### **Construction**

1. Value chips, both primary, secondary or additional sets, must be designed and manufactured using colours for the base of the chip that are distinctly dissimilar from each other set and any approved or proposed non-value Roulette and tournament chips.
2. All value chips must have the identical physical characteristics except for specific differences in denomination or value.
3. Each value chip must be designed so that the specific denomination of each value chip can be determined when placed in a stack of value chips of various denominations and viewed by surveillance.
4. Each value chip must be designed, manufactured and constructed in a manner not conducive to counterfeiting.
5. Each denomination shall have a primary colour different from other denominations of value chips.
6. The manufacturer's name, distinct logo or identifying mark must be inscribed on at least one side of the chip.
7. The name or logo of the issuing gaming facility must be inscribed on each side of the chip.
8. Each value chip must clearly state the face value of the chip.
9. Value chips with a denomination value of over \$5.00 must be designed using black light sensitive ink on specific areas of the chip or a comparable security feature.
10. Value chips with a value of \$25.00 and over must be manufactured using the security features of the lesser value chips plus "alpha dots" or a comparable security feature.
11. Value chips with a value greater than \$100.00 must be manufactured using the security features of the lesser value chips plus contain an individual serial number within the denomination.

### **Distribution/Packaging**

1. Each package, box, or other container must be sealed at the factory with a tamper resistant seal or tape, including a warning to the purchaser that it may have been tampered with if the package, box or other container was received with the seal broken. The seal or tape must be visible from outside the package, box, or container and must be of such construction as to guarantee that should the container be opened or otherwise tampered with, evidence of the opening or tampering would be easily detected.
2. A label shall be placed on, or be visible from, the exterior of each carton to easily determine the intended premises, the type of equipment, amount contained within and the supplier.

3. A packing slip is required inside the carton listing the same information in point 2.
4. The supplier's name, logo or identifying mark must be placed on each packaged shipment or alternatively placed on each box/package containing individual gaming equipment.