Hexametric, by H.D. Allen

(Recreated from the November 1980 issue of J.J. Keller & Associates’ Metric Bulletin.)

Just for fun, why not try the puzzle below and test your knowledge of metric unit names and relationships. Make a photocopy of the puzzle and cut it up, then try to rearrange the seven hexagons in the same pattern, but with touching edges showing equivalent measurement expressions.

Developer of the puzzle was the indomitable Don Allen of Nova Scotia Teachers College in Truro, Nova Scotia. His considerable energies were directed toward making the transition to metric as painless as possible for his “teachers of the future” students in Canada. In addition, his thoughtful writings have been widely distributed in the United States as well.

We hope you enjoy the mental exercise of this little puzzle. We think it would be a good way to reinforce the relationships and terminology of the metric system, and have a good time in the bargain!