



Notification Number: 1996/439/F

Draft Order amending the Order of 30 June 1983 classifying construction and building materials according to their reaction to fire and definition of test methods.

Date received : 05/11/1996
End of Standstill : Closed
Invocation of the Emergency Procedure : Yes

Message

REP PERMANENTE ROYAUME UNI
REP PERMANENTE IRLANDE
REP PERMANENTE GRECE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY
ATT. MR. Z.P. MAVROUKAS
HELLINIKOS ORG. TYPOPISOES
ATT. MR. MELAGRAKIS
DGS INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM
DEPT. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, QUALITY AND EDUCATION DIVISION,
ATT. MRS. B. O'GRADY
INST INDUST RESEARCH.
ATT. MR. J. NULTY
KOMMERSKOLLEGIUM
ATT. MS. KERSTIN CARLSSON
MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
ATT. MS. TOLONEN
EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY
EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION
ATT. MS. BAKKE-D'ALOYA
TELEX 002



COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (96) D/51992/2
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC
TRANSLATION OF TELEX 001
NOTIFICATION 96/0439/F

- 3B1 : 9601992.EN

1. Structured Information Line

TLX 002 IND- 96 0439 F-- EN ----- 961105 --- ---

2. Member State

France

3. Department Responsible

Delegue Interministeriel aux Normes
22 Rue Monge, 75005 Paris

3. Originating Department

Ministere de l'Interieur
Direction de la Securite Civile
1, Place Beauvau, 75800 Paris

4. Notification Number

96/439/F

5. Title

Draft Order amending the Order of 30 June 1983 classifying
construction and building materials according to their
reaction to fire and definition of test methods.

6. Products Concerned

Construction and building materials for high-rise buildings,
public establishments and housing.

7. Notification Under Another Act

-

8. Main Content

a) Amendment of the provisions of the Order of 30 June 1983
relating to the following test procedures for
establishing reaction to fire:

- radiation test for multi-layer materials with airtight
non-combustible face,
- Annex 3.1 electric burner,

b) Amendments to the provisions of the Order of 30 June 1983
relating to:

- equivalent products (Annex 20),
- standard classifications (Annex 21),
- resistance of material classifications to fire (Annex 22)



whilst withdrawing any reference to asbestos.

Keywords: safety, fire behaviour, test methods, material classification.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Article R 121-5 of the Construction and Housing Code stipulates that the Minister for the Interior shall establish, by Order, the test conditions and classification for construction materials in relation to their reaction to fire. The fire safety regulations in public establishments, high-rise buildings and housing make reference to these categories of materials and construction elements to avoid outbreak of fire and its rapid spread.

The aim of the draft Order is to remove all references to the word asbestos and thus to withdraw all materials containing asbestos necessitating fire-resistance tests. In this regard it should be remembered that some months ago the French government announced a ban, from 1 January 1997, on the manufacture, sale, import and transfer in any manner of different types of asbestos or any material or product containing asbestos. Originally this prohibition was to take effect on 1 January 1998.

The amendments incorporated in the draft are a result of work which has taken place for some months by official laboratories approved by the Minister for the Interior for the purposes of carrying out tests to enable the substitution of asbestos with other materials and equivalent products with similar properties. Such substitute products have now been found.

It should be noted, moreover, that Article GN14 of the amended Order dated 25 June 1980 approving the general provisions of the fire and emergency safety regulations in public housing stipulates that practical tests carried out by laboratories of other Member States of the European Union demonstrating the independence and competence of test laboratories, established by the NFEN 45 000 series of standards and approved by the Minister for the Interior shall be recognised as equivalent to the practical tests carried out by French laboratories appointed under these regulations.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

- * Construction and Housing Code - Book 1 Section 2
- Chapter 1. Fire protection, material classification.
- * Order of 30 June 1983, classifying construction and building materials according to their reaction to fire and definition of test methods.
- * Order of 28 August 1991 amending the Order of 30 June 1983 classifying building and construction materials according



to their reaction to fire and definition of test methods.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

Yes

12. Grounds for the Emergency

This Order must enter into force on 1 January 1997. It has been decided that other products shall be used in place of asbestos as of this date. Account will not be taken of different products in stock in laboratories.

13. Confidentiality

-

14. Fiscal measures

-

D. WILLIAMSON
COMEUR
NNNN