



Notification Number: 2003/443/F

Specification sheet with a view to the approval of an inspection body, in implementation of the Order notified to the Commission

Date received : 02/12/2003
End of Standstill : 03/03/2004 (03/06/2004)
Issue of comments by : Commission
Issue of detailed opinion by : Commission

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - SG(2003) D/52306
Directive 98/34/EC
Translation of the message 001
Notification: 2003/0443/F

Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - No abre el plazo - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Geen termijnbegin - Nao inicia o prazo - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist.

(MSG: 200302306.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2003 0443 F EN 03-03-2004 02-12-2003 F NOTIF 03-03-2004

2. Member State

France

3. Department Responsible

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3. Originating Department

Ministère de l'Economie, des Finances et de l'Industrie
Direction générale des douanes et droits indirects
Bureau F3



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75007 Paris

4. Notification Number

2003/0443/F - X10M

5. Title

Specification sheet with a view to the approval of an inspection body, in implementation of the Order notified to the Commission

6. Products Concerned

Articles of precious metals with recognised fineness standards marketed on French territory.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The draft specification sheet with a view to the approval of an inspection body is laid down in implementation of the draft Order issued to implement the authorisation agreements between the customs and indirect taxes administration and the approval of approved inspection bodies for testing and marking articles of precious metals. This draft Order is the subject of a simultaneous notification.

Before they are approved, inspection bodies must be accredited beforehand, in accordance with Standard NF EN ISO 17025 or an equivalent standard, by the French accreditation committee (COFRAC) or by any other accreditation body signatory to the multilateral European agreement laid down within the framework of the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA) for inspecting articles of precious metals.

Considering the sensitivity of the products and the specific nature of national legislation in the area, approved inspection bodies must be approved by the administration. This approval shall be largely based on accreditation but shall also take account of a specification sheet introduced into law by an Order which is the subject of a simultaneous notification.

The request for approval, accompanied by the specification sheet, must be submitted to the Directorate-General for Customs and Indirect Taxes. Approval shall be issued by joint Order of the Minister responsible for the Budget and the Minister responsible for Industry.

Approved inspection bodies shall be approved for testing and marking all types of articles of precious metals, regardless of the nature and fineness of the metal. They may also assay articles on behalf of professionals. Approved inspection bodies established in another Member State of the European Union may only be approved by the French administration for determining the fineness of articles. As is the case in other Member States, the national guarantee hallmark may not be given to a body located outside national territory. Within the framework of the modernisation of the guarantee and the new organisation of guarantee offices (public testing and marking offices for articles of precious metals), the approval of approved inspection bodies is decisive. Approved inspection bodies must be accredited and approved by 1 July 2004. Before being able to affix their guarantee hallmark, professionals who do not have their own laboratory must have their articles tested by these bodies in accordance with a sampling plan cited in the specification sheet.



9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Enlarging the scope of intervention of approved inspection bodies to all fineness standards of precious metals and extending the delegation of hallmarks to professionals are an essential element in reforming the guarantee.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

a) General Tax Code - Collecting indirect contributions: Article 56 J(k) of Annex IV to the General Tax Code.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

-

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspects

a) No

b)

iii) ☐ The draft does not have any notable impact on international trade.

SPS Aspect

a) No

i) ☐ The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure pursuant to Annex A to the SPS Agreement.

David O'Sullivan
General Secretary
European Commission

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