Notification Number: 1992/319/F

# DECREE IMPLEMENTING LAW NO. 83 660 OF 21 JULY 1983 CONCERNING CONSUMER SAFETY WITH REGARD TO INSERTS AND SOLID HEARTHS OF FIREPLACES WHICH BURN SOLID FUELS

Date received : 27/11/1992 End of Standstill : 01/03/1993 Issue of comments by : Commission

## Message

REP PERMANENTE IRLANDE

REP PERMANENTE GRECE

AGENCE RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE TECHN.

ATT. MME. MOUSTAKA-ZERVAKOU

HELLINIKOS ORG. TYPOPISEOS

ATT. MR. MELAGRAKIS

DEPT. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, QUALITY AND EDUCATION DIVISION,

ATT. MR. E. ALLEN

INST INDUST RESEARCH.

ATT. MR. J. NULTY

ICC: PLEASE FORWARD THIS MESSAGE TO ICC MAILBOX EFTBT

TELEX 002

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (92) D/52049/2 DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC AND 88/182/EEC TRANSLATION OF TELEX 001

NOTIFICATION 92/0319/F

- 3B2: 9202037.EN

#### 1. Structured Information Line

TLX 002 IND- 92 0319 F-- EN ----- 921127 --- ---

### 2. Member State



#### **FRANCE**

#### 3. Department Responsible

COMMISSARIAT A LA NORMALISATION 22, RUE MONGE 75005 PARIS SGCI CARRE AUSTERLITZ 2, RUE BOULEVARD DIDEROT 75012 PARIS

#### 3. Originating Department

DIRECTION GENERALE DE LA CONCURRENCE, DE LA CONSOMMATION ET DE LA REPRESSION DES FRAUDES 3-5, BOULEVARD DIDEROT 750012 PARIS

#### 4. Notification Number

92/0319/F

#### 5. Title

DECREE IMPLEMENTING LAW NO. 83 660 OF 21 JULY 1983 CONCERNING CONSUMER SAFETY WITH REGARD TO INSERTS AND SOLID HEARTHS OF FIREPLACES WHICH BURN SOLID FUELS

#### 6. Products Concerned

CONTINUOUS OR INTERMITTENT HEATING DEVICES AND APPROVED DEVICES WHICH BURN EITHER SOLELY WOOD OR WOOD AND SOLID MINERAL FUELS, WHICH ARE INTENDED TO BE INSTALLED IN A FIREPLACE.

#### 7. Notification Under Another Act

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#### 8. Main Content

THIS DRAFT DECREE RENDERS THE MANUFACTURING AND ISSUING ON THE MARKET OF THE DEVICES SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH THE ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS INTENDED TO PREVENT FIRE HAZARDS WHEN THE DEVICES ARE CORRECTLY INSTALLED. DETAILS OF THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE GIVEN IN ANNEX I, THEY CONCERN THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DEVICES. COMPLIANCE WITH THESE REQUIREMENTS SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY MEANS OF A MARKING OR BY AFFIXING A DATA PLATE ON THE DEVICE. THE TEXT ALSO REQUIRES THAT A NOTICE BE DISPLAYED ON THE DEVICE, WHICH DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR THE DEVICE TO BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROPRIATE RULES (THE TEXT OF THE NOTICE IS GIVEN IN ANNEX II) AND FOR A MANDATORY NOTICE TO APPEAR ON THE DEVICE, CONTAINING ALL THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO ENSURE CORRECT INSTALLATION AND APPROPRIATE MAINTENANCE AND USE OF THE DEVICE. ARTICLE 3 SPECIFIES THE DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF COMPLIANCE OF THE DEVICES WITH SAFETY REQUIREMENTS, WHICH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ISSUING THE DEVICES ON THE MARKET MUST POSSESS.



THE DOCUMENT OR FORM REFERRED TO IN POINT 5 AND DETAILS OF WHICH ARE GIVEN IN ANNEX III ENSURES THAT WHERE INSTALLATION IS NOT CARRIED OUT BY THE VENDOR OR SUBJECT TO HIS RESPONSIBILITY, THE PURCHASER HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE NEED TO COMPLY WITH THE CORRECT RULES OF INSTALLATION. IT ALSO PROVIDES CONSUMERS WHO HAVE THE DEVICE INSTALLED BY A THIRD PARTY WITH A GUARANTEE OF COMPLIANCE OF THE INSTALLATION (PART C OF THE FORM).

#### 9. Brief Statement of Grounds

NUMEROUS ACCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED IN RECENT YEARS INVOLVING THE USE OF INSERTS OR HEARTHS WHICH BURN WOOD. THESE FIRES AROSE MAINLY AS THE RESULT OF INCORRECT INSTALLATION (CONSTRUCTION OF FIREPLACES AND NEW FLUES WHICH DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRED FIRE DISTANCES, USING UNSUITABLE MATERIALS, INSTALLATION IN EXISTING FIREPLACES WHICH WERE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE INSERTS), AND WERE MADE WORSE BY THE USE OF DEVICES WHICH WERE BADLY DESIGNED (EJECTION OF EMBERS, TEMPERATURES OF COMBUSTION FUMES AND GASES WHICH WERE TOO HIGH, ETC.) AND/OR LACKING ADEQUATE INFORMATION REGARDING INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLATION, USE AND MAINTENANCE.

#### 10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

LAW NO. 83 660 OF 21 JULY 1983 REGARDING CONSUMER SAFETY.

# **11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure** YES

# 12. Grounds for the Emergency

AN ORDER OF 14 NOVEMBER 1991, IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 3 OF THE LAW OF 21 JULY 1991 A IMPOSES THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REASONS EVOKED IN POINT 9:

- THE AFFIXATION OF A NOTICE (SIMILAR TO THAT DESCRIBED IN ANNEX II TO THE DRAFT DECREE) ON INSERTS AND SOLID HEARTHS WHICH BURN WOOD.
- THE SIGNATURE BY THE PURCHASER, IN CASES WHERE THE DEVICE IS SOLD WITHOUT INSTALLATION, OF A DOCUMENT CERTIFYING THAT HE/SHE WAS AWARE OF THE NOTICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDER, VALID FOR ONE YEAR, HAVE NOT PROVED DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT FOR MANUFACTURERS IN FRANCE AND ELSEWHERE AND HAVE NOT CREATED OBSTACLES TO TRADE. THEY WILL EXPIRE BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR AND IT IS NECESSARY TO PROLONG THEM QUICKLY BY MEANS OF THE PRESENT TEXT.

D. WILLIAMSON COMEUR NNNN