



Notification Number: 1995/57/F

Decree relating to the prevention of risks of epilepsy associated with the playing of video games.

Date received : 16/02/1995

End of Standstill : 16/05/1995

Issue of comments by : Commission

Message

REP PERMANENTE ROYAUME UNI

REP PERMANENTE IRLANDE

REP PERMANENTE GRECE

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY
ATT. MR. Z.P. MAVROUKAS

HELLINIKOS ORG. TYPOPISEOS
ATT. MR. MELAGRAKIS

DGS INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM

DEPT. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, QUALITY AND EDUCATION DIVISION,
ATT. MR. K. LAWLESS

INST INDUST RESEARCH.
ATT. MR. J. NULTY

KOMMERSKOLLEGIUM
ATT. MS. KERSTIN CARLSSON

FINLAND
EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY
ATT. M. BOHR

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION
ATT. MS. MEADEN

TELEX 002

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (95) D/50339/2
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC AND 88/182/EEC
TRANSLATION OF TELEX 001



NOTIFICATION 95/0057/F

- 3B1 : 9500339.EN

1. Structured Information Line

TLX 002 IND- 95 0057 F-- EN ----- 950216 --- ---

2. Member State

FRANCE

3. Department Responsible

Ministère de l'Economie
Direction Générale de la Concurrence,
de la Consommation et de la Répression des Fraudes
59, bd Vincent Auriol
75 703 PARIS Cédex 13

4. Notification Number

95/0057/F

5. Title

Decree relating to the prevention of risks of epilepsy
associated with the playing of video games.

6. Products Concerned

Video games.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

This draft decree stipulates that video games, video game computers and video games consoles must be accompanied by a warning informing the consumer on the one hand of the risks of epilepsy associated with the playing of these games by certain people and on the other hand of the precautions which should be taken when playing these games. In addition, it stipulates that all operators of establishments where video games may be played by the public, either free of charge or in return for payment, must also place a warning on each machine and display a poster in the building.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

By making the consumer better informed, this decree will enable the risks of epileptic fits associated with the playing of video games to be reduced to a minimum. It sets forth the recommendations which were issued by the Consumer Safety Commission in a notice dated 7 April 1993. The matter was referred to this Commission in the light of information published by the press on cases of epileptic fits brought on by playing video games. The Commission compiled a



list from hospitals of at least thirty cases of epileptic fits triggered whilst playing video games in both photosensitive (likely to suffer such fits) and non-photosensitive subjects.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

- Article L 221-3 of the Consumer Code.,
- Notice of the Consumer Safety Commission dated 7 April 1993.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

NO

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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D. WILLIAMSON
COMEUR
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