



Notification Number: 1992/202/UK

## PETROLEUM SPIRIT (MOTOR VEHICLES ETC) (MODIFICATIONS) REGULATIONS 199- ////

Date received : 20/07/1992  
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Issue of comments by : Germany  
Issue of detailed opinion by : Commission

### Message

- 3B2 : 9201252.EN

#### 1. Structured Information Line

TLX 001 IND- 92 0202 UK- EN ----- 920720 --- ---

#### 2. Member State

UNITED KINGDOM

#### 3. Department Responsible

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: STANDARDS, QUALITY AND  
POLICY UNIT

#### 3. Originating Department

THE HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE

#### 4. Notification Number

92/0202/UK

#### 5. Title

PETROLEUM SPIRIT (MOTOR VEHICLES ETC) (MODIFICATIONS)  
REGULATIONS 199-

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#### 6. Products Concerned

PORTABLE METAL PETROL CONTAINERS UP TO 23 LITRES CAPACITY  
PORTABLE PLASTIC PETROL CONTAINERS UP TO 20 LITRES CAPACITY  
A SPECIFIC STANDARD WOULD BE INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM  
FOR PORTABLE PLASTIC CONTAINERS OF UP TO 20 LITRES CAPACITY,  
INTENDED FOR SPARE FUEL FOR USE IN INTERNAL COMBUSTION  
ENGINES

#### 7. Notification Under Another Act



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## 8. Main Content

UNDER THE UNITED KINGDOM LAW PETROLEUM-SPIRIT IS SUBJECT TO A LICENSING REGIME, BUT FOR MANY YEARS THE KEEPING OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF PETROL FOR USE AS FUEL IN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES HAS BEEN CONDITIONALLY EXEMPT. SINCE 1982, PLASTIC CONTAINERS OF UP TO 5 LITRES COMPLYING WITH A UNITED KINGDOM SPECIFICATION (EQUIVALENT TO THE GERMAN STANDARD DIN 16904) HAVE BEEN PERMITTED. THE REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO PRIVATE USE AND USE AT WORK.

THE NEW REGULATIONS CONTINUE THE EXEMPTION ARRANGEMENTS, RATIONALISE AND UPDATE STORAGE PROVISIONS, ALLOW LARGER PORTABLE CONTAINERS FOR SPARE FUEL AND SET NEW INTERIM STANDARDS FOR PLASTIC CONTAINERS. PETROL STORAGE NOT COMPLYING

WITH THESE SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS MAY STILL BE ALLOWABLE UNDER LICENCE.

THE NEW STANDARD FOR PORTABLE PLASTIC CONTAINERS IS CLOSELY BASED ON PROPOSED CEN 227 AND WOULD BE REPLACED BY THE CEN STANDARD WHEN AGREED. NATIONAL STANDARDS MEETING SIMILAR SaFeTY CRITERIA WILL BE ACCEPTED AS EQUIVALENT.

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## 9. Brief Statement of Grounds

THE MAXIMUM SIZE OF PLASTIC CONTAINER CURRENTLY PERMITTED UNDER EXEMPTION IS CONSIDERED UNNECESSARILY RESTRICTIVE. THERE IS A NEED TO RATIONALISE EXISTING LEGISLATION WHICH APPLIES SEPARATE REQUIREMENTS TO PLASTIC AND METAL CONTAINERS. THE PROPOSED UK STANDARD IS AN INTERIM SOLUTION TO MEET PRESSING NATIONAL NEEDS UNTIL A CEN STANDARD IS AGREED AND IS CLOSELY BASED ON CEN WORK.

THE INTENTION TO REMOVE MANUFACTURING CONSTRAINTS WITHOUT REDUCING THE LEVEL OF SAFETY, WOULD ALSO ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO TRADE.

UNDER UK SAFETY LAW, EQUIVALENT EC NATIONAL STANDARDS WOULD BE ACCEPTED AS MEETING THE PROPOSED LEGAL REQUIREMENTS. IN PREPARING THE DRAFT STANDARD, THE UK HAS SOUGHT TO ENSURE THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE IN CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 30, SUBJECT TO ARTICLE 36, OF THE TREATY OF ROME. FORMAL RECOGNITION OF EQUIVALENT EC NATIONAL STANDARDS WOULD NOT THEREFORE BE WITHHELD.

## 10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

DRAFT DOCUMENTS:

UK'S HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION'S DRAFT CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT INCLUDING COMMENTARY ON THE PROPOSALS AND DRAFTS OF:



I UK REGULATIONS, AND  
II A CODE OF PRACTICE, INCORPORATING AN INTERIM STANDARD  
FOR PLASTIC CONTAINERS OF UP TO 20 LITRES WHICH WOULD  
APPLY TO CONTAINERS USED BOTH AT WORK AND BY THE GENERAL  
PUBLIC.

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N.B. COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROPOSED STANDARD WOULD IN THE  
UNITED KINGDOM LAW BE TAKEN TO DEMONSTRATE COMPLIANCE WITH  
THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION. A VALID DEFENCE IS WHERE AN  
ALTERNATIVE STANDARD PROVIDES EQUIVALENT OR SUPERIOR LEVELS  
OF HEALTH AND SAFETY.

**11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

NO

**12. Grounds for the Emergency**

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