Notification Number: 1997/74/UK

The Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations 1997

Date received : 13/02/1997 End of Standstill : 20/05/1997 Issue of comments by : Germany

Message

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (97) D/50364 DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC

NOTIFIKATION - NOTIFIZIERUNG - NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICACION NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICA - KENNISGEVING - NOTIFICACAO - ILMOITUS ANMÄLAN : 97/0074/UK.

FRISTERNE INDLEDES IKKE -KEIN FRISTBEGINN - DOES NOT OPEN THE DELAYS - NO ABRE EL PLAZO - N'OUVRE PAS DE DELAIS - NON FA DECORRERE LA MORA - GEEN TERMIJNBEGIN - NAO INICIA O PRAZO MÄÄRÄAIKA EI ALA TÄSTÄ - INLEDER INGEN FRIST.

- 3B1: 9700364.EN

1. Structured Information Line

TLX 001 IND- 97 0074 UK- EN ----- 970212 --- ---

2. Member State

United Kingdom.

3. Department Responsible

Department of Trade and Industry: Standards and Technical Regulations Directorate

3. Originating Department

Department of Trade and Industry

4. Notification Number

97/0074/UK

5 Title

The Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations 1997

6. Products Concerned

Pencils, pens, brushes, crayons, chalk and other similar articles (including any pencil-lead for a propelling pencil).

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

It is proposed that the new Regulations should:

- (a) specify n-heptane as a cleaning agent for the purposes of test methods under the Regulations (as a substitute for 1,1,1 Trichloroethane, the manufacture of which has to cease under Council Regulation 3093/94);
- (b) allow either the test method currently specified in the Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations 1974 or that set out in the toy safety standard,
- EN 71-3, to be used by suppliers when determining the levels of toxic elements; and,
- (c) not apply to articles previously supplied before 1 August 1974.

The draft Regulations make no change, however, to the toxicity requirements for these products under UK law and would therefore, but for 8 (a) above, not be notifiable under Directive 83/189/EEC.

The draft Regulations provide recognition of equivalent EC and EEA standards or specifications.

Writing and drawing instruments supplied as toys are not covered by the proposed Regulations - they are covered by the UK Regulations which implement the EC Directive on the safety of toys (87/378/EEC).

The UK will fulfil its obligation under Article 12 of Directive 83/189/EEC (as amended) when these Regulations are officially published.



9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The proposed Regulations will consolidate, with amendments. two current sets of national regulations. These are the Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations 1974 and the Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975.

The proposed Regulations will reflect the requirements of Council Regulation 3093/94 which controls ozone depletion substances and implements the Montreal Protocol. Under the Regulation, the manufacture of 1,1,1 Trichloroethane, which is specified in the current UK regulations, must cease.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

i. The draft Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations 1997

Copies of the two sets of current regulations were sent in connection with Notification 95/0437/UK.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

13. Confidentiality

14. Fiscal measures

No

D. WILLIAMSON **COMEUR** NNNN