



Notification Number: 1989/308/F

Draft decree concerning automatic garage doors.

Date received : 19/12/1989
End of Standstill : Closed
Invocation of the Emergency Procedure : Yes

Message

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TELEX 002

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (89) D/15557/2
TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC AND 88/182/EEC
TRANSLATION OF TELEX 001
NOTIFICATION 89/0308/F

- 3B4 : 8901072.EN

1. Structured Information Line

TLX 002 IND- 89 0308 F-- EN ----- 891219 --- ---



2. Member State

France

3. Department Responsible

Secretariat-General of the Interministerial Committee on
Matters of European Economic Cooperation - 216 rue de
l'Université, 75700 Paris

3. Originating Department

Ministry of Supply, Housing, Transport and the Sea -
Department for Building Construction - Arche de la Défense -
92055 Paris la Défense Cedex04

4. Notification Number

89/0308/F

5. Title

Draft decree concerning automatic garage doors.

6. Products Concerned

Automatic garage doors determine the types of automatic
closing mechanisms used on premises.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The Decree lays down first of all essential requirements for
any automatic garage doors to be newly fitted, which are as
follows:

- the door must remain integral with its supporting
structure.,
- any opening or closing of the door must be interrupted
where such movement may cause injury.,
- where the safety system fulfilling the requirements set out
above is defective, the automatic operation of the door
must be interrupted.,
- the use of automatic garage doors, even in a manner other
than that specified, may not involve risk to human beings.,
- the clearance space required by the door must be properly
illuminated and the clearance area must be marked on the
ground.,
- all door movements must be indicated by means of a flashing
orange light, both inside and outside. This indication
must precede any movement of the door.,
- it must be possible to operate the door from both outside
and inside in order to release any accident victim.

Conformity with NFP Standard 25-362 or any other standard of



a European country that provides the same level of safety is deemed to satisfy the essential requirements.
The Decree also requires doors fitted before 31 December 1991 to be brought into line with it and the conclusion of a maintenance contract for any such installation.

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9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The need for regulations on automatic garage doors has arisen following a number of accidents over the last few years. No other regulations exist at the moment in this area. The development of such closing systems has prompted the authorities to turn its attention to this problem, resulting in the drafting of this draft decree.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

The Decree is pursuant to Law No 89-421 of 23 June 1989 entered in the Building Construction and Dwellings Code under Articles L125-3, L125-4 and L125-5, as attached. The text refers to NFP Standard 25-362 on closures for open bays.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

Yes

12. Grounds for the Emergency

Since 1986 45 to 50 serious accidents, 15 of them fatal, have been recorded as a result of faulty timing in the operation of automatic garage doors. The victims were mostly young children between 5 and 15 who were trapped beneath the door, in the space between the door and the ceiling or between the door and a side wall.

Furthermore, the current provisions do not enable rapid assistance to be provided as it is difficult and sometimes impossible to release the victims rapidly. Fear of a series of fatal accidents over the next few months, which is possible as there are now 50 000 automatic garage doors in use, has prompted the French authorities to call for the urgent adoption of measures.

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