



6 October 2016

(16-5331)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| 1. Notifying Member: <u>EUROPEAN UNION</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2): |
| 2. Agency responsible: European Commission Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: European Commission EU-TBT Enquiry Point Fax: +(32) 2 299 80 43 E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.eu Website: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/ |
| 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], other: |
| 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Windscreen washing fluids, defrosting fluids and denatured alcohol containing methanol in quantities equal to or greater than 0.6% by weight. |
| 5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Draft Commission Regulation amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards methanol (3 pages + Annex 2 pages, in English). |
| 6. Description of content: This draft Regulation relates to a new entry in Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. It would restrict the placing on the market for the general public of windscreen washing fluids or defrosting fluids and denatured alcohol containing methanol in a concentration equal to or greater than 0.6% by weight. Application of the restriction is deferred for 12 months to allow stakeholders sufficient time to adapt and achieve compliance. |
| 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The exposure to methanol present in windscreen washing fluids or defrosting fluids and denatured alcohol in a concentration equal to or above 0.6% by weight poses a risk to human health, in particular a risk of death, severe ocular toxicity or other severe effects of methanol poisoning. The proposed restriction aims to reduce the incidence of severe methanol poisoning following consumption by chronic alcoholics and sporadically by non-alcoholics of windscreen washing fluids or defrosting fluids and denatured alcohol used as cheap substitute for consumable alcohol. The 12 months of transitional period before the application of the proposed restriction will allow stakeholders sufficient time to comply with the proposed restriction in particular to allow the sales of stocks and to ensure adequate communication within the supply chain. |

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| <p>8. Relevant documents: Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH Regulation):</p> <p>http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1423064258789&uri=CELEX:32006R1907</p> <p>The opinions of the Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC): http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/2b3f6422-ab4d-4b85-9642-eb225070858</p> <p>Further background information is available at http://echa.europa.eu/previous-consultations-on-restriction-proposals/-/substance-rev/7202/term</p> |
| <p>9. Proposed date of adoption: First half of 2017</p> <p>Proposed date of entry into force: 20 days from publication in the Official Journal of the EU (the restriction will begin to apply 12 months after the date of entry into force)</p> |
| <p>10. Final date for comments: 60 days from notification</p> |
| <p>11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:</p> <p>European Commission EU-TBT Enquiry Point Fax: + (32) 2 299 80 43 E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.eu The text is available on the Website: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/ https://members.wto.org/cnattachments/2016/TBT/EEC/16_4196_00_e.pdf https://members.wto.org/cnattachments/2016/TBT/EEC/16_4196_01_e.pdf</p> |