

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2. Agency responsible: European Commission Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: European Commission EC-TBT Enquiry Point Fax: +(32) 2299 8043 E-mail: ec-tbt@ec.europa.eu Website: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/tbt/
3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 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): Dichloromethane in paint strippers
5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 76/769/EEC as regards restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (Dichloromethane) (10 pages, in English).
6. Description of content: The proposed Decision will amend Annex 1 of Directive 76/769/EEC relating to restrictions of the marketing and use of certain substances and preparations, in particular of Dichloromethane (DCM). The restriction affects the marketing and use of paint strippers containing DCM in concentrations greater than 0.1% by mass for industrial and professional activities and for consumers.
7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The main objective is to reduce the risk to human health, in particular for the following use categories: - Industrial uses: DCM-based paint strippers activities shall be conducted only in industrial installations with mandatory requirements concerning the protection of personnel, such as appropriate gloves, exhaust ventilation or air respiratory equipment and engineering controls for strip tanks;

- Professional uses: The use of DCM-paint strippers by professionals in non-industrial settings shall be banned in general, but Member States could opt to allow further use on their territories by specifically licensed professionals for those activities where they believe that the replacement of DCM is particularly difficult or inappropriate;

- Consumers: The placing on the market of DCM-based paint strippers for consumer use shall be banned.

8. Relevant documents:

Council Directive 76/769/EEC of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the restrictions on the marketing and use of dangerous substances and preparations (OJ L 262, 27.9.1976, p.201),

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31976L0769:EN:HTML>

as last amended by Directive 2007/51/EC (OJ L 257, 03.10.2007, p. 13),

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2007:257:0013:0015:EN:PDF>.

9. Proposed date of adoption: } January 2009
Proposed date of entry into force: }

10. Final date for comments: 60 days from day of notification

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available of the other body:

European Commission
 EC-TBT Enquiry Point
 Fax: + (32) 2299 8043
 E-mail: ec-tbt@ec.europa.eu

The text is available on the EC-TBT Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/tbt/>
http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2008/tbt/eec/08_0553_00_e.pdf