GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED TBT/Notif.89.321 22 December 1989 Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.4.

1. Party to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u>

2. Agency responsible: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (289)

3. Notified under Article 2.5.2 [x], 2.6.1 [], 7.3.2 [], 7.4.1 [], Other:

4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading):

Air brake systems for trucks, buses and trailers (HS 8716, 8703, 8709)

5. Title: Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Air Brake Systems (3 pages)

6. Description of content: The Administration proposes to amend Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 121, Air Brake Systems, to require extendable and drop frame container chassis trailers to comply with all requirements of Standard 121. The existing Standard excludes extendable and drop frame container chassis trailers from certain actuation timing, emergency and parking brake requirements otherwise applicable to trailers. Under the proposal, extendable and drop frame container chassis trailers would no longer be excluded from the requirements of FMVSS 121 S5.3, S5.6 and S5.8 of the Standard.

The Standard specifies braking requirements for trucks, buses and trailers equipped with air brake systems. Some trucks and trailers otherwise covered by the Standard are excluded from all or portions of the Standard because their attributes, typically those relating to configuration speed or weight, result in restricted highway operation, or sharply increased compliance costs.

7. Objective and rationale: Safety

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8. Relevant documents: 54 FR 49781, 1 December 1989; 49 CFR Part 571. Will appear in the Federal Register when adopted.

9. Proposed dates of adoption and entry into force: To be determined

10. Final date for comments: 30 January 1990

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [x] or address of other body: