

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.92.244

17 August 1992

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>AUSTRIA</u>
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of Environment, Youth and Family
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): Products containing the banned substances especially transformers, capacitors and similar electric or electronic devices as well as hydraulic fluids.
5. Title: Ordinance of the Federal Minister of Environment, the Youth and the Family Concerning the Ban of Halogenated Biphenyl, Terphenyl, Naphthalene and Disphenylmethane (PCB, PCT)
6. Description of content: The banned substances themselves as well as products containing the banned substances may generally not be produced, imported and marketed. There is only an exception for scientific and analytic purposes. The use of capacitors with more than one litre of liquid containing PCB/PCT is allowed only until 31 December 1996. The use of transformers with more than one litre of liquid containing PCB/PCT is allowed only until 31 December 1999. Transformers may only be refilled if it can be expected that after the refillment the liquid containing PCB/PCT may be used until they are out of order. Transformers and capacitors with more than one litre of liquid containing PCB/PCT have to show a special PCB/PCT label and must be notified to the Federal Ministry of the Environment, Youth and the Family.
7. Objective and rationale: The substances banned by this ordinance are toxic to human beings and may cause cancer, they are toxic to water organisms and cause great problems in waste treatment. Similar regulations to this ordinance are in force in the European Communities (6/769/EEC).
8. Relevant documents:
9. Proposed date of adoption and entry into force:
10. Final date for comments:
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: