

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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20 October 1993
Special Distribution

(93-1761)

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: Department of Transportation (432)
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): Crashworthiness for tank cars (HS Chapter 8606)
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Crashworthiness Protection Requirements for Tank Cars (23 pages)
6.	Description of content: The administration is proposing revisions to the Hazardous Materials Regulations that would improve the crashworthiness of tank cars and restrict the continued use in hazardous materials service of tank cars that no longer meet current safety requirements. Included are proposals to expand the use of thermal protection systems and head protection on tank cars used for transporting certain hazardous materials; add new requirements for bottom discontinuity protection; prohibit the use of self-energized manways located below the liquid level of the cargo; revise "grandfather" provisions that allow certain uses of tank cars; and require the use of pressure tank cars, that are more resistant to puncture, for all poisonous by inhalation (PIH) materials and certain other high hazard materials.
7.	Objective and rationale: Safety; to enhance the safe transportation of hazardous materials in tank cars.
8.	Relevant documents: 58 FR 52574, 8 October 1993; 49 CFR Part 172, 173, 179. Will appear in the Federal Register when adopted.

9.	Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: To be determined
10.	Final date for comments: 7 February 1994
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: