

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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(94-2274)

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>SLOVAK REPUBLIC</u>
2.	Agency responsible: Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing (ÚNMS SR)
3.	Notified under Article 2.5.2 [], 2.6.1 [X], 7.3.2 [], 7.4.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Household electrical appliances
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Decree No. 71/1994 of the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing
6.	Description of content: In accordance to Act No. 30/1968, on state testing, in tenor with subsequent regulations, specified electrical appliances are to be subject to obligatory testing thus replacing existing obligatory product type approval. Obligatory product type approval for introducing it into the market was exercised in Testing Laboratories which, at the same time, were bodies issuing the decisions on product type approval into market. Obligatory products certification is based on issuing the conformity certificate of product to directives and standards by the certification body which is independent of results and procedures in Testing Laboratories and independent of the manufacturer. Implementing this change the certification process partially approaches that one used in the EU member states. There are no principal differences compared to previously used procedure for obligatory product type approval performed by the state authorized Testing Laboratories, with regard to specified products of domestic manufacturers and importers.

7. Objective and rationale: The purpose for introducing the obligatory testing instead of current obligatory products type approval is to make the process of product testing and its assessment more objective, as the protection of health and consumer's life is concerned, the protection of environment and his consumer's property and what the product quality and performance stability is concern.

From 1 January 1995 the obligation to all technical standards (CSN = STN) approved before 31 May 1991 will be abandoned. It represents 92 per cent of the whole system of national standards. As these standards include the provisions of regulatory sphere currently not regulated by any other technical regulations, there is a need to solve the problem through the temporary endorsement of systematic measures, i.e. to ensure relevant protection of health, environment and safety at work through the higher level of legislation which refers to standards, as the technical solutions which they fulfil (they are fulfilments of the requirement of this legislative arrangement).

Notified Decree is one of these measures, because as a consequence of expected voluntary status of standards is current breaking of their clauses as a result of this there was increase of fire accidents with index 2 in 1993 and with index 4 in 1994.

Similar increase is statistically evident in number of injuries, with the rapid increase within last period of months, therefore we apply this measure with immediate validity.

8. Relevant documents:

- (a) - Act No. 141/91 in tenor to Act No. 632/92,
- Act No. 30/1968 Zb on state testing in tenor to following regulations,
- FUNM Regulation No. 101/1988 on products certification.
- (b) International documents:
 - EN 45011 (CSN EN 45011 = STN EN 45011).
- (c) Publication in which there is a reference
UMNS Bulletin No. 11/1994 (Vestník ÚNMS SR č. 11/1994)
- (d) Publication in which the proposal will be published after the approval:

Official Gazette of Slovak Republic

9. Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 15 October 1994

10. Final date for comments:

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body: