DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION NO. 601 OF MAY 17, 1997

ON THE MARKING OF GOODS AND PRODUCTS ON THE TERRITORY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION WITH FORGERYPROOF CONFORMITY MARKS

(with the Amendments and Additions of September 19, 1997, October 20, 1998, June 24, July 10, 1999)

For the purpose of implementing the Law of the Russian Federation on the Certification of Products and Services, protecting the interests and rights of consumers to acquire goods of proper quality, and attracting additional funds to the revenue part of the federal budget, the Government of the Russian Federation hereby resolves:

1. To put into force counterfeit-proof conformity marks including the registration information pertaining thereto (hereinafter referred to as "marks") from April 1, 1999 on the territory of the Russian Federation for the marking of the goods and products subject to mandatory certification.

Goods being manufactured in the territory of the Russian Federation and imported goods, as well as products being realized on the consumer market of the Russian Federation shall be subject to labelling with marks.

To establish that the manufacturer organizations, the importers, the trade organizations and individual businessmen shall be responsible for the labelling of goods and products with marks.

To approve the annexed list of the first group of goods and products that shall be submit to obligatory labelling with marks ((hereinafter referred to as the List).

To prohibit as from October 1, 1999 the realization in the territory of the Russian Federation of goods and products mentioned in the List without the presence of the marks.

Manufacturers/producers are not entitled to mark additionally goods and products with marks if the marking has already been done as the goods and products were manufactured/produced.

The manufacturer organizations, the importers, the trade organizations and individual businessmen may label voluntarily with marks goods and products that are not subject to obligatory certification.

2. The Ministry of Commerce of the Russian Federation and the State Committee for Standards and Metrology of the Russian Federation shall:

in the fourth quarter 1998 endorse instructions on the procedure for marking goods and products put on sale on the territory of the Russian Federation, keeping record of the movement thereof:

define a procedure for protecting copies of certificates of conformity and other forwarding documents and cause their being marked with special counterfeit-proof marks;

present proposals for amending the list to the Government of the Russian Federation as the need may arise";

3. To establish that:

the solution of the organizational-and-methodological issues connected with the labelling with marks of the goods and products mentioned in the List, the control over the manufacture, accounting and custody of marks, and also over their realization shall be entrusted to the the State Committee for Standards and Metrology of the Russian Federation;

the holder of the information system comprising the single base of the data on the operational accounting of the movement of the goods and products labelled with marks shall be the Ministry of Commerce of the Russian Federation;

the manufacture of the marks, their accounting, custody, and also the technical and organizational support and the software of the single data base shall be carried out without the attraction of budgetary funds by organizations selected on the basis of a competition organized by the State Committee for Standards and Metrology of the Russian Federation;

the organization of the manufacture of marks shall be carried out in a centralized way in accordance with the procedure established by the State Committee for Standards and Metrology of the Russian Federation;

- 4. the State Committee for Standards and Metrology of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Commerce of the Russian Federation shall within three months approve the specimens of marks and determine the requirements to the degree of their protection.
- 5. The control over the realization of goods and products that are subject to labelling with marks shall be carried out by the Ministry of Commerce of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Federal Service of the Tax Police of the Russian Federation.
- 6. The officials and head of organizations, regardless of their legal organizational form, and also individual business shall bear responsibility for the sale of goods and products that have not been marked with marks in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.
- 8. The Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation and the State Committee for Standards and Metrology of the Russian Federation shall endorse in the fourth quarter of the Year 1998 the pricing for the marks and a procedure for the transfer of the proceeds from the sales thereof.
- 9. The Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Affairs of the Commonwealth of Independent States shall notify the Commonwealth countries about the introduction of the marks on the territory of the Russian Federation.

Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation

V.Chernomyrdin

List *

of the First Group of Goods and Products That Shall Be Subject to Obligatory Labelling with Counterfeitproof Conformance Marks (Approved by the Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 601 of May 17, 1997)

(in the wording of the Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1193 of September 19, 1997)

3. Computer Equipment

* The full list of the names of goods and products for each group is given in the annex to the instructions on the procedure for the movement and accounting of the goods and products labelled with counterfeitproof conformance marks and being realized in the territory of the Russian Federation.