

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.91.342

20 December 1991

TARIFFS AND TRADE

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 (364)
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): Lap belts
5. Title: Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Occupant Crash Protection (7 pages)
6. Description of content: This notice proposes to require that lap belts or the lap-belt portion of lap/shoulder belts be capable of tightly securing child safety seats without the necessity of the user's attaching any device to the seat-belt webbing, retractor, or any other part of the vehicle in order to achieve that purpose. A vehicle's compliance with this proposed requirement would be determined by "locking" the belt with whatever means is provided for that purpose, measuring the distance between two points on the belt assembly, pulling on the "locked" belt with a 50 pound force, and while the force is pulling on the belt, again measuring the distance between the two points on the belt assembly. The difference between the two measurements for the locked belt would be used to determine if the safety belt complied with this proposed requirement.
7. Objective and rationale: To ensure that safety belts are both comfortable for adult occupants and capable of tightly securing child safety seats.
8. Relevant documents: 56 FR 63914, 6 December 1991; 49 Part 571. Will appear in the Federal Register when adopted.
9. Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: If adopted in a final rule, these proposed requirements would apply to vehicles manufactured on or after 1 September 1993.
10. Final date for comments: 21 January 1992
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: