GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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19 June 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: SWITZERLAND
2. Agency responsible: Swiss Body for Prevention of Accidents (BPA)
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): Ski safety bindings for alpine skiing, test conditions, requirements
5. Title: Technical Requirements for Ski Safety Bindings
6. Description of content: The ski safety binding has to ensure two main functions: - retention i.e. holding firmly the boot on the ski; - release i.e. freeing the boot in case of a dangerous fall. The present standard sets test conditions and requirements in order to improve binding designs and to limit the typical risks encountered in alpine skiing to an acceptable level. It is sub-divided into the following chapters: - generalities; - test pieces; - release tests; - field tests; - tests for accelerated ageing.
7. Objective and rationale: This paper is a revised version of the BPA requirements of 1984. It was elaborated in order to integrate in a large manner the existing ISO Standards in this field. These standards, however, do not cover the whole spectrum of the conditions encountered in skiing. For example, the behaviour under combined loads is actually treated within working groups, but there is still no agreement on an adequate testing method. Tests with combined loads were already integrated in the previous BPA Standards. It is foreseen to retain them in the revised paper until an ISO Standard will appear on this subject.

8. Relevant documents: BPA requirements of 1984
9. Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 1 September 1992
10. Final date for comments: 27 July 1992
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: