

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.92.249

2 September 1992

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: Department of Commerce (378)
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): Fasteners
5. Title: Procedures for Implementation of The Fastener Quality Act (30 pages)
6. Description of content: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) requests comments on proposed regulations to implement the Fastener Quality Act. The Act requires that certain fasteners which are sold in commerce conform to the specifications to which they are represented to be manufactured; provides for accreditation of laboratories engaged in fastener testing; and requires inspection, testing and certification, in accordance with standardized methods of fasteners covered by the Act. The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of NIST proposes to implement the Act by establishing these procedures under which laboratories in compliance with the Act may be listed; laboratories may apply to NIST for accreditation; private laboratory accreditation entities (bodies) may apply to NIST for approval to accredit laboratories; and foreign laboratories accredited by their Governments or by organizations recognized by the NIST Director can be deemed to satisfy the laboratory accreditation requirements of the Act.
7. Objective and rationale: Public Safety
8. Relevant documents: 57 FR 37032, 17 August 1992; 15 CFR Part 280. 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: 2 November 1992
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: