

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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7 February 1994
Special Distribution

(94-0225)

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 Transportation, Coast Guard (6)
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. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Personal flotation devices
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Hybrid Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs); Establishment of Approval Requirements (15 pages)
6.	Description of content: The changes include lowering manufacturing costs by reducing the amount of repetitive testing required. Increases in buoyancy are proposed to compensate for removing the Type V criteria being "required to be worn" to allow approval of Hybrids A Type I, II and III. Types I, II and III are proposed in addition to the existing Type V category. This proposal also proposes approval of hybrids for youths and small children.
7.	Objective and rationale: To make hybrid personal flotation devices more affordable and attractive to boaters and encourage more wide use of the devices which potentially will save more lives
8.	Relevant documents: 59 FR 2575; 18 January 1994; 46 CFR Parts 25 and 160. 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: 18 April 1994
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body: