

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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14 November 1994
Special Distribution

(94-2391)

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>NETHERLANDS</u>
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment
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): Technical requirements for dwellings, residential buildings and buildings which are neither dwellings nor residential buildings, as well as building sites which are not (yet) buildings. These requirements affect the application of building products.
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft order amending the building degree with regard to energy performance
6.	Description of content: The draft order provides for the replacement of the current requirements based on the principle of energy efficiency in the building degree. The draft provides for legal reference to the standards devised by the Dutch Standardization Institute (NNI) which stipulate methods of determination for energy performance at the building level (NEN 2916 and NEN 5128).
7.	Objective and rationale: Within the framework of environmental policy, considerable efforts have been made in the Netherlands to achieve better energy efficiency. To achieve this, efforts were made to find an objective method of determination which would avoid the creation of barriers to trade. This was achieved by adopting the limit values contained in the building degree (energy performance coefficients) which are linked to the above-named determination methods developed by the NNI. These determination methods give various energy-saving options at the building level relating to ventilation, thermal insulation of the shell of the building, heating systems, cooling systems, etc. From this range of energy-saving options, a choice can be made as to which is optimal on the basis of the building plan. The choice made must at least result in compliance with the above-mentioned limit values.

8.	Relevant documents: Building degree, NEN 2916 and NEN 5128
9.	Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 1 October 1995
10.	Final date for comments: 25 January 1995
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body: