

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

TBT/W/44/Add.1/Corr.9

5 November 1982

Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

INDIVIDUAL STANDARDIZING AND CERTIFYING BODIES

Note by the Secretariat

Corrigendum

The present document replaces the information previously circulated as TBT/W/44/Add.1/Corr.8.

Country: Austria

1. Body:

Osterreichisches Normungsinstitut (ON)
(Austrian Standards Institute (ON))
Leopoldsgasse 4, Postfach 130
A-1021 Wien

TP (0222) 35 55 19 (international: 0043 222 33 55 19)

TG Austrianorm

TX 75960 oenorm a

2. Date established: 23 September 1920

3. Membership:

Approx. 500 members (firms, authorities, bodies and persons)
of the privat association (Vereinsmitglieder).

Approx. 5000 members of national technical committees representing the legal and economic administration of the federal and provincial governments, of science and of professional organizations interested in standardization and representing the interests of producers, trade and consumers.

4. Organizational structure and management:

ON is a non-profit private association incorporated by public law. The executive organs are:

- General Assembly (election of Presidency, Board of Directors and Auditors, fixation and contributions, adoption of annual reports, etc.)
- Presidency (convocation of the General Assembly and the Presidency, representation of the organization)
- Board of Directors (implementation and administration tasks)
- Auditors (examination of the accounts)
- National technical committees, subcommittees and working groups: (Standardization work; decisions on technical content of ÖNORMEN/Austrian Standards) .

5. Financing:

About one half of total resources come from the sale of publications and over one third from subventions by trade and commerce (Federal Chamber of Commerce, similar bodies, firms, etc.). The balance originates from subscriptions of members, copyright fees, registration fees of tested and certified products and a small (less than 5%) government subsidy.

6. Activities:

Standards-writing and distribution, registration of tested and certified products being in conformity with Austrian Standards, publications and educational and promotional activities. ON is empowered to supervise the use of the word "ÖNORM" and the mark "Ö" under the Federal Act on Standardization 1971, indicating that a product or service is in conformity with the relevant Austrian Standard (ÖNORM).

- (a) Standards-writing organization
- (b) Publication of Austrian Standards (ÖNORMEN) and recommendation of international and foreign standards for the use in Austria by endorsement notice
- (c) No enforcements of standards or technical regulations, which can be only made mandatory or compulsory by authorities (vested with the necessary legal power)
- (d) Membership in ISO and CEN "noncertifying membership" in ISO/CERTICO and CENCER
- (e) National inquiry point for standards
- (f) Magazine "ÖNORM" and yearly report on activities (Tätigkeitsbericht), Standards Catalogue and amendments to it (ÖNORMEN Verzeichnis und Ergänzungshefte hiezu).

7. Fields of standardization:

Ores and metals, mechanical engineering, building and construction, electrotechnology and electrical engineering, health and medical equipment, non-metallic materials, chemical and allied industries, special technologies, personal safety; electrotechnical specifications (österreichische Bestimmungen für die Elektrotechnik) are issued by ÖVE, Österreichischer Verband für Elektrotechnik (Austrian Association for Electrotechnical Engineering), in agreed cases by ON as Austrian Standards (ÖNORMEN).

- (a) Standardization in all areas, as far as these are not already covered by laws and regulations.
- (b) Per year approx. 300 Austrian Standards are published or revised. The ON does not issue regulations. Electrotechnical specifications are issued by ÖVE (Österreichischer Verband für Elektrotechnik) Austrian Assoc. for Electrotechnical Engineering.

8. Fields of certification:

"Applies to Austrian Standards (ÖNORMEN) specifying bindingly a test and certificate by an Austrian governmental or governmentally authorized test station or a civil engineer (in Austria civil engineers are empowered to certify also in all technical fields not only in building and construction). The ON only

registers such certificates on conformity to these relevant Austrian Standards after the producer or dealer has supplied them and paid the register fee. Such registrations are also possible for foreign manufacturers or importers.

9. Status of publications: 1)

Approximately 95 % of the ÖNORMEN (Austrian Standards) are voluntary. However, they can become mandatory in toto or partly by acts of parliament or decrees on the federal, provincial or municipality level. Austrian Standards are often used as integral parts of contracts such becoming binding for a certain case of business and are also used in front of courts to represent the state of art.

ON mainly publishes Austrian Standards.

- (a) Voluntary standards including endorsed foreign standards, having the same status, approx. 2600
- (b) About 5 per cent of the Austrian Standards are made mandatory by Austrian governmental authorities
- (c) nil
- (d) Supporting publications like handbooks, schoolbooks, special lists of standards, etc. are issued.

1) The following publications have been made available for consultation by delegations:

- Statuten (constitution)
- Geschäftsordnung 1974 (internal regulations 1974)
- Annual Report 1980
- Das österreichische Normenwesen (Normengesetz 1971 with comments)

These are available for consultation in Room 1073, Centre William Rappard.