



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
COMMITTEE

-
23rd Session

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NC0049E1

O. Eng.

H9-3

Brussels, 26 April 1999.

CLASSIFICATION OF REPEATERS USED IN LAN SYSTEMS

OR IN THE TELEPHONE LINE SYSTEM

(Item VIII.12 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

40.464 (HSC/18)	41.600, Annex F/16 (HSC/20 - Report)
41.125 (HSC/19)	42.047 (HSC/21)
41.100, Annex H/8 (HSC/19 - Report)	42.100, Annexes H/8 and IJ/17 (HSC/21 - Report)
41.309 (HSC/20)	42.449 (HSC/22)
41.684 (HSC/20)	42.750, Annex G/25 (HSC/22 - Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 22nd Session (November 1998), the Harmonized System Committee examined the classification of the Local Repeater (LE605A-R3). Many delegates were of the view that the apparatus at issue was classifiable in heading 84.71 as a unit of an ADP machine.
2. However, the Delegate of the EC argued that the apparatus in question was not the same kind of apparatus as the LAN equipment that the Committee had decided to classify in heading 84.71 (Note : a reservation has been entered by the EC regarding the classification of the LAN equipment during the intersession). The function of this repeater could be regarded as just transmission but not data processing. He also expressed his concern about the distinction to be made between repeaters used in a LAN system and those used in a telephone line system.
3. The Secretariat indicated that it had tried to get information on the repeaters used in the telephone line system but was not successful, since the repeaters for telephone line systems reportedly were made to order and there did not appear to be much trade; consequently such information was not readily available.
4. Finally, the Committee agreed to ask the Secretariat to carry out a detailed study with a view to determining the most appropriate classification for repeaters used in a LAN system and those used in a telephone line system and a line of demarcation between them.

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Administrations were invited to submit information on repeaters of different types, especially those used in the telephone line system.

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

5. During the intersession, the Secretariat has tried to find information on repeaters, in particular those used in the telephone line system, but without result, presumably mainly due to the reasons mentioned in paragraph 3 above. In addition, the Secretariat has not received information from administrations concerning this question.
6. Moreover, the Secretariat would like to draw the Committee's attention to the fact that the EC has entered the reservation with regard to the classification of LAN equipment, as mentioned in paragraph 2 above. This question will be referred to the Council at its 93rd/94th Sessions in June 1999 (see Doc. NC0005). The question concerning the classification of repeaters at issue is closely related to the question concerning the classification of LAN equipment.
7. In consideration of the above, the Secretariat feels that it might be better to postpone the examination of this item for the time being.

III. CONCLUSION

8. Taking into account the Secretariat's comments in paragraphs 5 to 7 above, the Committee is invited to decide what further action should be taken with regard to this matter.
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