



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
COMMITTEE

-
29th Session
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NC0582E1

O. Fr.

Brussels, 15 April 2002.

CLASSIFICATION OF GROUNDING RODS

(Item VIII.17 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NC0307E1 (HSC/26)
NC0430E2 (HSC/27- Report)

NC0396E1 (HSC/27)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 27th Session, the Harmonized System Committee examined the classification of certain grounding rods and decided to postpone the matter until a subsequent session, as the administrations in dispute had indicated that they might be able to reach a compromise during the intersession.
2. When preparing the documents for the HSC's 28th Session, the Secretariat had received no news on the subject. On 19 March 2002 the Secretariat received from the Brazilian Administration the note reproduced below, requesting that this question be reinstated on the Agenda for the 29th Session of the Harmonized System Committee.

II. NOTE BY BRAZIL

3. "I write with reference to the classification of grounding rods, which was the subject of item VIII.13 on the Agenda of the Harmonized System Committee's 27th Session. In April 2001 we sent you a note on this subject, which was published in Doc. NC0396E1. At the request of the Argentine Delegation, which was welcomed by our delegation, the Committee decided to postpone this question until a subsequent session, pending a possible resolution of the problem within the framework of Mercosur.

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4. However, at the most recent meeting of Technical Committee No. 1, which deals with nomenclature and classification questions in the framework of Mercosur, the Brazilian and Argentine Administrations agreed to ask the Harmonized System Committee to rule on the classification of grounding rods, with or without the accessories referred to in paragraph 7 of Doc. NC0396E1.
5. It was also agreed that the Argentine Administration may send the Secretariat a note requesting a decision on the classification of another set, consisting of a grounding rod and a conductor cable, welded together to form a single whole.
6. We should therefore be grateful if you would place this matter on the Agenda for the 29th Session of the Harmonized System Committee."

III. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

7. The Committee is invited to note that on the basis of the information which was available prior to the HSC's 27th Session, the Secretariat prepared comments on this question which were published as paragraphs 15 to 23 of Doc. NC0307E1.
8. As the note reproduced in paragraphs 3 to 6 above contains no new information liable to influence the Secretariat's opinion on the subject, the above-mentioned comments are maintained unchanged.

IV. CONCLUSION

9. The Committee is invited to re-examine the classification of grounding rods, in the light of the information provided by the Brazilian Administration and the Secretariat comments in Doc. NC0307E1. The Committee is also invited to indicate what measures, if any, should be taken to reflect whatever decision it may take on the subject.
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