



HARMONIZED SYSTEM  
COMMITTEE

-  
25<sup>th</sup> Session

-

NC0198E1

O. Eng.

H3-1

Brussels, 31 January 2000.

## CLASSIFICATION OF A COMPRESSION TYPE REFRIGERATING UNIT

(Item VIII.17 on Agenda)

### Reference documents :

NC0041E1 (HSC/23)  
NC0160E2, Annex H/17 (HSC/24 – Report)

### I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 18<sup>th</sup> Session (November 1996) the Committee began its examination of the classification of “split-system” type air-conditioning machines.
2. Subsequently, the Argentine Administration raised the question of the “classification of “split-system” type air-conditioning machines without their connecting devices, by application of Note 4 to Section XVI” (see Doc. 41.178 - HSC/19). However, at the request of that same Administration, this study was withdrawn from the programme of work (see Doc. 42.112 - HSC/21).
3. Last year the Argentine Administration submitted a new classification question concerning a compression type refrigerating unit designed to work as an outdoor condensing unit of a “split-system” air-conditioning system.
4. Given that Argentina was not represented at the last session, the Committee agreed that it was not sufficiently informed to take a decision on this classification question. The Secretariat was instructed to ask the Argentine Administration for further information and also to find out what types of condensers were on the market.

File No. 2637

## II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

5. First of all, the Secretariat would point out that at the time of writing it had not yet received any information from Argentina that would make it possible to determine the exact nature of the apparatus with which the Argentine Administration is concerned. Therefore it will not be possible to consider the classification question at this session.
6. Secondly, the Secretariat would point out that it has visited a number of suppliers in Brussels but has not been able to obtain any information as to whether or not there are condensers on the market that do not operate according to the principle of heat exchange.
7. The Secretariat has also consulted some specialists in this field, whose views are endorsed by the technical works available at the WCO. It appears that condensers are of only two types : (1) **static** - in which ventilation occurs naturally by convection - and (2) **ventilated** - where the ventilation occurs through a flow of air circulated by a fan. In either case, the condenser is defined as one of the heat exchangers in the cooling circuit (as is the evaporator). On this point, the Secretariat recalls its study presented in Doc. NC0041E1, which makes clear that heat exchangers have a specific function.
8. In the light of the foregoing, the Secretariat is leaning towards the view that condensers presented separately should not be classified in heading 84.18, given that the apparatus concerned performs a specific function expressly mentioned in the text of heading 84.19.
9. Finally, the difficulties raised by the Argentine Administration have led the Secretariat to consider amending the legal text of subheading 8418.61 in order to clarify the scope of that subheading. It is proposed that this matter be examined in the next Review cycle.

## III. CONCLUSION

10. The Committee is invited to take note of the above developments and to indicate whether it can agree that the scope of subheading 8418.61 should be studied during the next HS Review cycle.
-