



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

NR0021E1

-
19th Session
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O. Eng.

H11-3

Brussels, 11 February 1999.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO SUBHEADING 8480.41

(Item II.A.21 on the Agenda)

Reference documents :

42.474

42.500, Annex B/17 (RSC/18 – Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 18th Session, the Review Sub-Committee examined the possible amendment of subheading 8480.41. The Delegate of the United States said he had documentation indicating that injection type moulds could be used for moulding metals. To give administrations time to study the proposal with full knowledge of facts, the Sub-Committee, therefore, decided to postpone the question until its next session.
2. On 6 January 1999, the Secretariat received, *inter alia*, the following information from the United States Administration :
3. “Metal injection molding is a young technology, having only been practiced commercially since the mid 1980’s. North American industry sales are reported to be near \$60 million, and are growing at over 30 percent per year. The process is essentially a marriage of the thermoplastic injection molding and conventional powder metallurgy processes. It offers the same level of design freedom for highly configured metal components as is available for plastic parts in the plastic injection molding process.” (Excerpt from “Metal Injection Molding the Choice for Small, Complex Parts”). (<http://www.jobshoptechnology.com/past/04.html>).

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

4. According to the information provided by the United States Administration, it would appear that there is no doubt that the technology for using injection type moulds for moulding metals does really exist. Therefore, it is the view of the Secretariat that the present wording in the Nomenclature should remain unchanged.

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5. Copies of the documentation provided by the United States Administration will be available in the Meeting Room.

III. CONCLUSIONS

6. The Sub-Committee is invited to take into account the information provided by the United States Administration and the Secretariat's comments when examining the possible amendment to subheading 8480.41.
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