COMMISSION

COMMISSION DIRECTIVE

of 19 May 1978

adapting to technical progress Council Directive 74/60/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest and rear part of the seats)

(78/632/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 70/156/EEC of 6 February 1970 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type approval of motor vehicles and their trailers (1), as amended by the Act of Accession, and in particular Articles 11, 12 and 13 thereof,

Having regard to Council Directive 74/60/EEC of 17 December 1973 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest and rear part of the seats) (2),

Whereas in view of the experience gained and of the state of the art it is now possible to match the requirements more closely to actual test conditions;

Whereas the provisions of this Directive are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee on the Adaptation to Technical Progress of the Directives aimed at the Removal of Technical Barriers to Trade in the Motor Vehicle Sector,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The Annexes to Directive 74/60/EEC are amended as shown in the Annex to this Directive.

Article 2

1. With effect from 1 January 1979 no Member State may on grounds relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of the controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest and rear part of the seats):

— refuse in respect of a type of vehicle to grant EEC-type approval, to issue the document referred to in the last indent of Article 10 (1) of Directive 70/156/EEC, or to grant national type approval; or

— prohibit the entry into service of vehicles if the interior fittings (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of the controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest and rear part of the seats) of such type of vehicle or of such vehicles comply with the provisions of Directive 74/60/EEC, as amended by this Directive.

2. With effect from 1 January 1979 Member States:

— may no longer issue the document referred to in the last indent of Article 10 (1) of Directive 70/156/EEC in respect of a type of vehicle of which the interior fittings (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of the controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest and rear part of the seats) do not comply with the provisions of Directive 74/60/EEC, as amended by this Directive,

— may refuse to grant national type approval in respect of a type of vehicle of which the interior fittings (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of the controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest

(1) OJ No L 42, 23. 2. 1970, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 38, 11. 2. 1974, p. 2.

and rear part of the seats) do not comply with the provisions of Directive 74/60/EEC, as amended by this Directive.

3. With effect from 1 October 1982 Member States may prohibit the entry into service of vehicles of which the interior fittings (interior parts of the passenger compartment other than the interior rear-view mirrors, layout of the controls, the roof or opening roof, the backrest and rear part of the seats) do not comply with the provisions of Directive 74/60/EEC, as amended by this Directive.

Article 3

The Member States shall bring into force the provisions necessary to comply with this Directive not later than 1 January 1979 and shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

Article 4

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 19 May 1978.

For the Commission

Étienne DAVIGNON

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEXES TO COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 74/60/EEC OF 17 DECEMBER 1973

ANNEX I

DEFINITIONS, APPLICATIONS FOR EEC APPROVAL AND SPECIFICATIONS

Point 2.6 shall read:

'belt line' shall mean the line formed by the transparent lower contour of the side windows of the vehicle;

Point 2.7 shall read:

'convertible vehicle' shall mean a vehicle where in certain configurations there is no rigid part of the vehicle body above the belt line with exception of the front roof supports and/or the roll-over bars and/or the seat-belt anchorage points;

Point 2.8 shall read:

'vehicle with opening roof' shall mean a vehicle of which only the roof or a part of it can be folded back or be open, or may slide, leaving the existing structural elements of the vehicle above the belt line;

Point 2.9 shall read:

'folding (tip-up) seat' shall mean an auxiliary seat intended for occasional use and which is normally folded out of the way;

Point 5.3 shall read:

Other interior fittings in the passenger compartment in front of the transverse plane passing through the torso reference line of the manikin placed on the rearmost seats.

Point 5.3.1 shall read:

Scope

The requirements of point 5.3.2 below shall apply to control handles, levers and knobs and to any other protruding objects not referred to in points 5.1 and 5.2 above (see also under 5.3.2.2).

Point 5.3.2 shall read:

Requirements

If the items referred to in point 5.3.1 are so placed that occupants of the vehicle can contact them, they shall meet the requirements of points 5.3.2.1 to 5.3.4. If they can be contacted by a 165 mm diameter sphere and are above the lowest H point (see Annex IV) of the front seats and forward of the transverse plane of the torso reference line of the manikin on the rearmost seat, and outside the zones defined in points 2.3.1 and 2.3.2, these requirements shall be considered to have been fulfilled if:

Point 5.3.3 shall read:

The requirements of point 5.3.2.3 shall not apply to floor-mounted hand brake control; for such controls if the height of any part in the released position is above a horizontal plane passing through the lowest H point of the front seats (see Annex IV) the control shall have a cross sectional area of at least 6·5 cm^2, measured in a horizontal plane, not more than 6·5 mm from the furthest projecting part (measured in the vertical direction). The radius of curvature must not be less than 3·2 mm.

After point 5.3.4 add:

5.3.4.1. Components mounted on the roof but which are not part of the roof structure, such as grab handles, lights and sun visors, etc., shall have a radius of curvature of not less than 3·2 mm and, in addition, the width of the projecting parts shall not be less than the amount of their

downward projection; alternatively, these components shall pass the energy-dissipation test in accordance with the requirements of Annex III.

Point 5.4.2.1 shall read:

That part of the inner face of the roof which is situated above or forward of the occupants shall exhibit no dangerous roughness or sharp edges, directed rearwards or downwards. The width of the projecting parts shall not be less than the amount of their downward projection and the edges shall have a radius of curvature of not less than 5 mm. In particular, the rigid roof sticks or ribs, with the exception of the header rail of the glazed surfaces and door frames, shall not project downwards more than 19 mm.

Point 5.4.2.2 shall read:

If the roof sticks or ribs do not meet the requirements of point 5.4.2.1, they must pass the energy-dissipation test in accordance with the requirements of Annex III.

To point 5.4.2 add:

5.4.2.3. The metal wires which stretch the lining of the roof and the frames of the sun visors must have a maximum diameter of 5 mm or be able to absorb the energy, as prescribed in Annex III. Non-rigid attachment elements of the frames of the sun visors shall meet the requirements of point 5.3.4.1.

Point 5.5 shall read:

Vehicles with an opening roof.

Point 5.5.1.1 shall read:

The following requirements and those of point 5.4 above shall apply to vehicles with an opening roof when the roof is in the closed position.

Point 5.5.1.2.2 shall read:

Their surfaces shall terminate in rounded edges, the radii of curvature being not less than 5 mm.

Point 5.6 shall read:

'Convertible vehicles'.

Point 5.6.1 shall read:

In the case of convertible vehicles, only the underside of the top of the roll-bar and the top of the windscreen frame in all its normal utilization positions shall comply with the requirements of point 5.4. The system of folding rods or links used to support a non-rigid roof shall, where they are situated above or forward of the occupants, exhibit no dangerous roughness or sharp edges, directed rearwards or downwards.

Delete point 5.6.2.

Point 5.7 shall read:

Rear parts of seats anchored to the vehicle.

Point 5.7.1.2.3 shall read:

In the head impact zone outside the limits prescribed in points 5.7.1.2.1 to 5.7.1.2.2 inclusive, the seat frame structure shall be padded to avoid direct contact of the head with it: and, in these zones, shall have a radius of curvature of at least 5 mm. These parts may alternatively satisfy the energy dissipating requirements specified in Annex III.

Point 5.7.2 shall read:

These requirements shall not apply to the rearmost seats, to seats facing sideways or rearwards, to back-to-back seats or to folding (tip-up) seats. If the impact zones of the seats, head-restraints and their supports contain parts covered with material softer than 50 Shore A hardness, the above requirements, with the exception of those relating to energy dissipation described in Annex III, shall apply only to the rigid parts.

Point 5.8 becomes point 5.8.1.

The new point 5.8 shall read:

Other non-specified fittings.

ANNEX II

DETERMINATION OF THE HEAD-IMPACT ZONE

Point 2.2 shall read:

All points of contact situated forward of the H point shall be determined for each dimension from the pivotal point to the top of the head capable of being measured by the measuring apparatus within the interior dimensions of the vehicle.

In the case where the headform, with the arm set at minimum length, overlaps the front seat, from the rear H point, no contact point is established for this particular operation.

Point 2.3 shall read:

With the measuring apparatus vertical, possible points of contact shall be determined by pivoting it forwards and downwards through all arcs of vertical planes as far as 90° on either side of the longitudinal vertical plane of the vehicle which passes through the H point.

ANNEX III

PROCEDURE FOR TESTING ENERGY-DISSIPATING MATERIALS

Delete the text of point 1.3.3. Put the point number into brackets.

Point 1.4.1 shall read:

At every point of impact on the surface to be tested, the direction of impact shall be the tangent to the trajectory of the headform of the measuring apparatus described in Annex II.

For the testing of the parts as referred to in points 5.3.4.1 and 5.4.2.2 of Annex I, proceed by lengthening the arm of the measuring apparatus until contact is made with the part to be considered, up to a limit of 1 000 mm between the pivot point and top of the head of the apparatus. However, any roof sticks and ribs referred to in points 5.4.2.2 which cannot be contacted remain subject to the requirements of point 5.4.2.1 of Annex I with the exception of that relating to the height of projection.
