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COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 21 December 1977

on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators)

(78/316/EEC)

(OJ L 81, 28.3.1978, p. 3)

Amended by:

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on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators)

(78/316/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 100 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament [1],

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee [2],

Whereas the technical requirements which motor vehicles must satisfy pursuant to national laws relate *inter alia* to the identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators;

Whereas these requirements differ from one Member State to another; whereas it is therefore necessary that all Member States adopt the same requirements either in addition to or in place of their existing rules in order, in particular, to allow the EEC type-approval procedure, which was the subject of 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 [3], as amended by Directive 78/315/EEC [4];

Whereas it is advisable to draft the technical requirements so that they have the same aim as the work being carried out on the subject in the UN Economic Commission for Europe and as certain technical requirements adopted by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO);

Whereas the approximation of national laws relating to motor vehicles entails reciprocal recognition by Member States of the checks carried out by each of them on the basis of the common requirements,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Directive, 'vehicle' means any motor vehicle intended for use on the road, having at least four wheels and a maximum design speed exceeding 25 km/h, with the exception of vehicles which run on ►**M1** rails and of agricultural and forestry tractors and all mobile machinery. ◄

Article 2

No Member State may refuse to grant EEC type-approval or national type-approval of a vehicle on grounds relating to the identification of controls, telltales and indicators, if these satisfy the requirements laid down in Annexes I to IV.

Article 3

No Member State may refuse or prohibit the sale, registration, entry into service or use of any vehicle on grounds relating to the identifica-

[1] OJ No C 118, 16. 5. 1977, p. 33.
[2] OJ No C 114, 11. 5. 1977, p. 10.
[3] OJ No L 42, 23. 2. 1970, p. 1.
[4] See page 1 of this Official Journal.

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tion of controls, telltales and indicators if these satisfy the requirements laid down in Annexes I to IV.

Article 4

Any amendments necessary to adapt the requirements of Annexes I to V to technical progress shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 13 of Directive 70/156/EEC.

Article 5

1. Member States shall bring into force the provisions necessary in order to comply with this Directive within 18 months of its notification and shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

2. Member States shall ensure that the texts of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive are communicated to the Commission.

Article 6

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

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LIST OF ANNEXES

Annex I: Scope, definitions, application for EEC type-approval, EEC type-approval, specifications ►M1 ——— ◄

Annex II: Controls, tell-tales and indicators for which, when fitted, identification is mandatory, and symbols to be used for that purpose ►M1 ——— ◄

Annex III: Controls, tell-tales and indicators for which, when fitted, identification is optional, and symbols which must be used if they are to be identified ►M1 ——— ◄

Annex IV: Construction of the basic pattern for the symbols shown in Annexes II and III ►M1 ——— ◄

Annex V: ►M1 Information document ◄

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Annex VI: EEC type-approval certificate.

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ANNEX I

SCOPE, DEFINITIONS, APPLICATION FOR EEC TYPE-APPROVAL, EEC TYPE-APPROVAL, SPECIFICATIONS

1. SCOPE

This Directive applies to motor vehicles with regard to the identification of manual controls, tell-tales and indicators.

2. DEFINITIONS

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►M1 2.1. ◄ **Vehicle type**

'Vehicle type' means motor vehicles which do not differ in respect of the internal arrangements which may affect the identification of symbols for controls, tell-tales and indicators.

►M1 2.2. ◄ **Control**

'Control' means that part of a device which enables the driver to bring about a change in the state or functioning of a vehicle.

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►M1 2.3. ◄ **Indicator**

'Indicator' means a device which presents information on the functioning or situation of a system or part of a system, for example a fluid level.

►M1 2.4. ◄ **Tell-tale**

'Tell-tale' means an optical signal which indicates the actuation of a device, correct or defective functioning or condition, or failure to function.

►M1 2.5. ◄ **Symbol**

'Symbol' means a diagram identifying a control, a tell-tale or an indicator.

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2.6. **Information display device**

'Information display device' means a display device capable of displaying more than one type of information or message.

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3. APPLICATION FOR EEC TYPE-APPROVAL

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3.1. The application for EEC type-approval pursuant to Article 3 (4) of Directive 70/156/EEC of a vehicle type with regard to its identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators shall be submitted by the manufacturer.

3.2. A model for the information document is given in Annex V.

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3.3. A vehicle representative of the type to be approved or such part or parts of the vehicle as are considered to be necessary for carrying out the checks and tests prescribed by this Directive must be submitted to the technical service responsible for conducting the type-approval tests.