

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(78) 380 final.

Brussels, 31 July 1978

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating

- to headlamps which function as main-beam and/or dipped-beam headlamps and to incandescent electric filament lamps for such headlamps
- to end-outline marker lamps
- to front position (side) lamps
- to rear position (side) and stop lamps

- to direction indicator lamps
- to reflex reflectors
- to the rear registration plate lamps
- to front fog lamps and filament lamps for such lamps
- to rear fog lamps
- to reversing lamps
- to parking lamps

for wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(78) 380 final.



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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

I. General

The Community type-approval procedure for wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors covered by the Council Directive of 4 March 1974¹ also includes the design and fitting of lighting and light-signalling devices.

The Commission addressed a proposal for a Directive on the fitting of such devices to the Council on 27 June 1974. This proposal for a Directive therefore only concerns their design. On a proposal from the Commission the Council, as part of the type-approval of motor vehicles and their trailers, has adopted design requirements for all devices whose fitting to motor vehicles is either mandatory or optional². Among the devices concerned are the following : main-beam headlamps, dipped-beam headlamps, end-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps, stop lamps, direction indicator lamps, reflex reflectors, rear registration plate lamps, front fog lamps, rear fog lamps, reversing lamps, parking lamps. The proposal for a Directive on the fitting of lighting and light signalling devices to wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors provides for the installation of said devices. However, since the devices fitted to tractors have the same design characteristics as those fitted to motor vehicles it seems advisable not to draw up for them requirements specific to tractors but rather to refer to those adopted for motor vehicles. Therefore a lamp bearing an EEC type-approval mark delivered pursuant to the Directives relating to motor-vehicle lamps can also be fitted to an agricultural tractor.

¹ OJ No L 82 of 28.3.1974, page 10

² OJ No L 262 of 27.9.1976, pages 32-134 and
OJ No L 220 of 29.8.1977, pages 60-94

II. Specific comments on the proposed Directive

The Directive applies to wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors having a maximum design speed of 6-25 km/h as also provided for in the Directive on type-approval (Article 1).

Article 2 incorporates in the EEC type-approval procedure the requirements for the construction of lighting and light-signalling devices.

Since certain new Member States at present do not carry out national type approval it is necessary to draft provisions enabling tractors complying with the requirements of the Directive (Article 3) to be used in those States.

Article 4 provides for the adaptation of the Directive to technical progress : the procedure is set out in Article 13 of the Council Directive of 4 March 1974 relating to the type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

Article 5 makes provision for an 18-month period during which the Member States can adapt to the Directive.

Finally the Commission must be notified within a reasonable space of time of all draft provisions drawn up by the Member States in the field covered by the Directive, in order to enable the Commission to comment thereon, if necessary (Article 5, par. 2).

III. Consultation of the European Parliament and Economic and Social Committee

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 100 (2), the opinion of these two institutions is required.

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,

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas the technical requirements with which tractors must comply pursuant to national laws relate, inter alia, to the installation of lighting and light signalling devices;

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 the Council Directive of 4 March 1974 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors (1) to be applied in respect of each type of tractor;

Whereas in Directive the Council laid down common requirements for the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors;

Whereas such lighting and light-signalling devices possess the same characteristics as those fitted to motor vehicles, and whereas, therefore, devices having received an EEC type-approval mark in accordance with the Directives already adopted on this subject in connection with the type-approval of motor vehicles and their trailers (2) can also be used on agricultural tractors,

(1) OJ N° L 84, 28.3.1974, p. 10

(2) OJ N° L 262, 27.9.1976, from p. 32 to p. 134 and
OJ N° L 220, 29.8.1977, from p. 60 to p. 94.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE :

Article 1

1. "Agricultural or forestry tractor" means any motor vehicle fitted with wheels or caterpillar tracks and having at least two axles, the main function of which lies in its tractive power and which is specially designed to tow, push, carry or power certain tools, machinery or trailers intended for agricultural or forestry use. It may be equipped to carry a load and passengers.
2. This Directive shall apply only to tractors defined in the preceding paragraph which are fitted with pneumatic tyres and which have two axles and a maximum design speed of between 6 and 25 km/h.

Article 2

No Member State may refuse to grant EEC type-approval or national type-approval of an agricultural or forestry tractor on grounds relating

- to headlamps which function as main-beams and/or dipped-beam headlamps or to incandescent electric filament lamps for such headlamps
- to end-outline marker lamps
- to front position (side) lamps
- to rear position (side) and stop lamps

- to direction indicator lamps
- to reflex reflectors
- to the rear registration plate lamps
- to front fog lamps and filament lamps for such lamps
- to rear fog lamps
- to reversing lamps
- to parking lamps

if these bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in the Annex and are fitted in accordance with the requirements laid down in the Directive.....

Article 3

No Member State may refuse the registration or prohibit the sale, entry into service or use of an agricultural or forestry tractor on grounds relating

- to headlamps which function as main-beam and/or dipped-beam headlamps or to incandescent electric filament lamps for such headlamps
- to end-outline marker lamps
- to front position (side) lamps
- to rear position (side) and stop lamps

- to direction indicator lamps
- to reflex reflectors
- to the rear registration plate lamps
- to front fog lamps and filament lamps for such lamps
- to rear fog lamps
- to reversing lamps
- to parking lamps

if these bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in the Annex and are fitted in accordance with the requirements laid down in this Directive.

Article 4

Any amendments necessary to adjust the requirements of the Annex to take account of 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 put into force the provisions containing the requirements needed in order to comply with this Directive within eighteen months of its notification and shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

2. After notification of this Directive, Member States shall ensure that the Commission is informed, in sufficient time for it to submit its comments, of any draft laws, regulations or administrative provisions which they intend to adopt in the field covered by the Directive.

Article 6

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

ANNEX

1. The headlamps which function as main-beam and/or dipped-beam headlamps and to incandescent electric filament lamps for such headlamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 76/761/EEC of 27 July 1976 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to motor-vehicle headlamps which function as main-beam and/or dipped-beam headlamps and to incandescent electric filament lamps for such headlamps (1).
2. The end-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps and stop lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 76/758/EEC of 27 July 1976 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to end-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps and stop lamps for motor vehicles and their trailers (1).
3. The direction indicator lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 76/759/EEC of 27 July 1976 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to direction indicator lamps for motor vehicles and their trailers. (1)
4. The reflex reflectors must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 76/757/EEC of 27 July 1976 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to reflex reflectors for motor vehicles and their trailers.(1)
5. The rear registration plate lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 76/760/EEC of 27 July 1976 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the rear registration plate lamps for motor vehicles and their trailers (1).
6. The front fog lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 76/762/EEC of 27 July 1976 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to front fog lamps for motor vehicles and filament lamps for such lamps (1).
7. The rear fog lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 77/538/EEC of 28 June 1977 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the rear fog lamps for motor vehicles and their trailers(2).
8. The reversing lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 77/539/EEC of 28 June 1977 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the reversing lamps for motor vehicles and their trailers (2).

(1) OJ N° L 262 of 27.9.1976

(2) OJ N° L 220 of 29.8.1977

9. The parking lamps must bear the EEC component type-approval mark as laid down in Council Directive 77/540/EEC of 28 June 1977 concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the parking lamps for motor vehicles and their trailers (2).

(2) OJ N° L 220 of 29.8.1977