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PRESS RELEASE

Decisions of European machine tool exhibitors examined
by the Commission

The Commission intends to grant the European Committee for Co-operation of the Machine Tool Industries negative clearance or exemption from the Treaty ban on cartels in respect of its decisions for the organization of the European Machine Tool Exhibitions. Under Article 19(3) of Council Regulation No. 17, the Commission is required to publish the essential content of the relevant application or notification in the official gazette of the European Communities, inviting all interested parties to submit their comments by a specified date. In this case the period set is two months.

The decisions of the Committee, which has its headquarters in Brussels, lay down terms and conditions for participation in the European Machine Tool Exhibitions, which are held every two years, in the odd year, rotating between Paris, Hanover, Brussels and Milan. The Committee represents the national associations of the machine tool manufacturers of the six countries and of Austria, Denmark, Great Britain, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal. Machine tools for the working of metal are the principal items shown at the exhibitions. Exhibitors must be either designers and manufacturers, designers and dealers, or manufacturers and dealers. The exhibiting firm must be resident in one of the 13 countries and must manufacture the products it deals with, or have them manufactured, in one of these countries. Manufacturers exhibiting machine tools must undertake not to exhibit their wares during the same year, either directly or indirectly, in any other fair, exhibition or salon in any member country of the European Committee. Failure to observe these requirements may lead to exclusion from the next exhibition and the loss of any advance payments made as a guarantee to cover costs.

Applications to exhibit are submitted to an admissions sub-committee of members of the main Committee, who accept or reject the application without appeal and who are not required to give reasons for their decision. The allocation of stand space is decided on by the organizing national association in agreement with the admissions sub-committee. This association also fixes rent for the stand space.

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