



HARMONIZED SYSTEM  
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

NR0108E1

-  
22<sup>nd</sup> Session  
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O. Eng.

Brussels, 2 August 2000.

AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTE TO HEADING 40.10

(Item III.A.2 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

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| 41.558 (RSC/16)                                   | NR0072E2 Annexes C (paragraph 40) and D/7 (RSC/20 - Report)          |
| 41.580 Annexes A/5 and D/4 (RSC/16 - Report)      | NR0074B1 (RSC/21)  |
| 41.920 Annex A/1 (RSC/17 - Report)                | NR0101E2 Annexes B/1 (paragraphs 11 to 14) and E/1 (RSC/21 - Report) |
| 42.100 Annexes F/1, N/1 and N/2 (HSC/21 - Report) | NC0250E2 Annexes F/1 (paragraphs 20 to 23) and L/7 (HSC/25 - Report) |
| NR0054B1 (RSC/20)                                 |  |

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 25<sup>th</sup> Session, the Harmonized System Committee examined amendments of the Explanatory Note to heading 40.10 consequential upon the Article 16 Recommendation of 25 June 1999, on the basis of Doc. NR0101B2 (see Annex E/1/2 to that document).
2. The EC Delegate informed the Committee that he could accept the Secretariat's alternative proposal. However he indicated that the terms in square brackets in the English text should be aligned on the French text to read "and sometimes transversally". With regard to the US alternative, he expressed concern about the possible impact on classification. He indicated that with regard to the HS 2002 amendments, the term "grooves" would not matter since it was not reflected in the legal texts.
3. The US Delegate expressed concern that, as drafted, the first alternative would narrow the current Explanatory Notes reference to grooves in V-belts by limiting it to grooves in V-ribbed belts which constituted only one type of V-belt. However, noting that the Secretariat's alternative proposal combined the text of the current Explanatory Note on "grooves whether moulded or cut" and the new text that described the V-ribbed belts, he suggested that the text be returned to the Review Sub-Committee for further consideration. In this respect, he suggested that two new paragraphs be drafted, i.e., one for the description

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of V-ribbed belts and one for the description of “grooves whether moulded or cut” into V-belts.

4. The Canadian Delegate informed the Committee that V-ribbed belts were already described by the existing Explanatory Note. He was of the view that the US proposal simply (a) expanded the existing Explanatory Note by indicating which of the existing examples of belts /belting was referred to as “V-ribbed” and (b) clarified that the existing reference to “grooves” was not limited to those which were longitudinal and that transverse grooves fulfilled the function described in the existing Explanatory Note. The Secretariat's proposal introduced an unnecessarily complicated definition of “V-ribbed” belts and linked the functionality of the grooves solely to V-ribbed belts. According to their research, single rib belts, such as shown in examples (A) and (B) in the Explanatory Note to heading 40.10, might also have transverse grooves. Therefore, he was of the view that the US proposal allowed for these goods, whereas the Secretariat's proposal did not.
5. The Committee finally agreed to send the above comments to the Review Sub-Committee for further consideration, together with the Secretariat's alternative text and a new alternative proposal from the US. While the Secretariat's text was retained in Annex L/7 to Doc. NC0250B2 in square brackets, the Committee instructed the Secretariat to prepare a new document for the next session of the Sub-Committee. The Secretariat's text as mentioned above is reproduced in the Annex to this document.

## II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

6. The Secretariat would first of all recall that at the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Review Sub-Committee, the term “grooved” which had been proposed for new subheadings 4010.31 to 4010.34 was replaced by the term “V-ribbed” for the reason that the term “grooved belts” was unusual, as pointed out by the Liaison Office of the Rubber Industry of the EU (BLIC) in paragraph 2 of Doc. 41.558 (see Annex A/5 to Doc. 41.180). The Sub-Committee also agreed that the reference to “trapezoidal cross-section” should be retained. The Sub-Committee then directed the Secretariat to prepare a proposal to insert a description of “V-ribbed” belts, excerpted from ISO 1081, in the Explanatory Note to heading 40.10 (see Annex A/5 to Doc. 41.580).
7. It should also be noted that the amendment to the Explanatory Note to heading 40.10 proposed by the Secretariat at the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Review Sub-Committee, was in conformity with the above decision of the Sub-Committee. This text incorporated the ISO 1081 definition for “V-ribbed belts” in the first sentence. The remainder of the paragraph was modified to be consistent with the new first sentence (see Annex A/1 to Doc. 41.920).
8. At the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Harmonized System Committee, the Delegate of Canada submitted a sample of an endless V-ribbed belt with longitudinally and transversally ribbed traction surface. She urged that the text be amended to insert, in brackets, the phrase “and possibly also transversally” after the word “longitudinally”. However, this modification was left in square brackets for further consideration (see Annex N/1 to Doc. 42.100). It should be noted that the text as mentioned in paragraph 7 above together with the Canadian comments in square brackets correspond to the amendments of the Explanatory Note to heading 40.10 as mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

9. The Secretariat would further point out that at the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Harmonized System Committee the Canadian Administration expressed its preference for the US alternative proposal submitted at that session (see paragraph 4 above).
10. The Secretariat still believes that the definition for V-ribbed belts excerpted from ISO 1081 should be retained in the proposed text without modification.
11. With respect to the Canadian proposal concerning those V-belts which are also transversally grooved, the Secretariat holds the view that such belts would still be covered by the ISO 1081 definition for V-ribbed belts since they are longitudinally ribbed.
12. However, taking note of the concerns expressed by the US and Canada, the Secretariat has prepared a new proposal for consideration by the Sub-Committee. Both the new proposal and the old proposal are set out in the Annex to this document.
13. Although no comments have been received to date, the Secretariat is open to new proposals for further improvement, which should be submitted to the forthcoming session of the Review Sub-Committee.

### III. CONCLUSION

14. The Sub-Committee is requested to examine the Secretariat's texts as set out in the Annex to this document and to make a recommendation as to how to best proceed with this matter.

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Annexe au Doc. NR0108B1  
Annex to

(SCR/22/sep. 2000)  
(RSC/22/Sept. 2000)

ANNEXE  
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MODIFICATION DE LA NOTE EXPLICATIVE DU N° 40.10  
(Voir Point III.A.2. de l'ordre du jour)

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ANNEX  
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AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTE TO HEADING 40.10  
(See Item III.A.2. on Agenda)

## MODIFICATION DE LA NOTE EXPLICATIVE DU N° 40.10

### Ancienne proposition du Secrétariat

Page 639. N° 40.10. Antépénultième paragraphe.

Nouvelle rédaction :

"Une courroie striée est une courroie sans fin à surface de traction striée dans le sens longitudinal, [et parfois transversal] qui entraîne par frottement des gorges de poulies de forme similaire. Les cannelures ou rainures (moulées ou taillées) apparentes sur les courroies striées ont pour rôle de réduire la contrainte de flexion et de contribuer à dissiper la chaleur produite par une flexion rapide, comme c'est le cas avec les mécanismes d'entraînement où les courroies s'enroulent autour de poulies de petit diamètre à vitesse élevée."

### Nouvelle proposition du Secrétariat

Page 639. N° 40.10.

1. Cinquième paragraphe. Exemple C).

Après "face", insérer "(courroies striées)".

2. Nouveau sixième paragraphe.

Insérer le paragraphe suivant :

" Une courroie striée est une courroie sans fin à surface de traction rainurée dans le sens longitudinal qui entraîne par frottement des gorges de poulies de forme similaire. Parfois, ces courroies présentent également des rainures transversales."

3. Nouveau septième paragraphe (actuel antépénultième paragraphe).

Nouvelle rédaction :

" Les cannelures ou rainures (moulées ou taillées) apparentes sur les courroies striées ont pour rôle de réduire la contrainte de flexion et de contribuer à dissiper la chaleur produite par une flexion rapide, comme c'est le cas avec les mécanismes d'entraînement où les courroies s'enroulent autour de poulies de petit diamètre à vitesse élevée. Les cannelures ou rainures transversales, qui ne sont présentes que sur certaines courroies trapézoïdales, n'ont aucune incidence sur le classement."

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AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTE  
TO HEADING 40.10

Old Secretariat proposal

Page 639. Heading 40.10. Antepenultimate paragraph.

Delete and substitute :

"A V-ribbed belt is an endless belt with a longitudinally [(and possibly also transversally)] ribbed traction surface which engages and grips, by friction, pulley grooves of similar shape. The grooves (whether moulded or cut) in V-ribbed belts or belting reduce bending stress and help dissipate the heat from rapid flexing; this is especially important on drives where the belts run over small sheaves at high speeds."

New Secretariat proposal

Page 639. Heading 40.10.

1. Fifth Paragraph. Example (C).

After "side", insert "(V-ribbed)".

2. New sixth paragraph.

Insert the following paragraph :

"A V-ribbed belt is an endless belt with a longitudinally ribbed traction surface which engages and grips, by friction, pulley grooves of similar shape. V-ribbed belts sometimes also contain transverse grooves."

3. New seventh paragraph (present antepenultimate paragraph).

Delete and substitute :

"Grooves (whether moulded or cut) in V-belts or belting reduce bending stress and help dissipate the heat from rapid flexing; this is especially important on drives where the belts run over small sheaves at high speeds. Transverse grooves, which are present in certain types of V-belts or belting, do not affect classification."

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