


Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	1996/0129(COD) Procedure completed
Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed	
Subject 2.10.03 Standardisation, EC/EU standards and trade mark, certification, compliance 3.40.03 Motor industry, cycle and motorcycle, commercial and agricultural vehicles	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	V HAUTALA Heidi	25/06/1996
	Former committee responsible		
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	V HAUTALA Heidi	25/06/1996
	Former committee for opinion		
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	ARE WEBER Jup	09/07/1996
Council of the European Union	TRAN Transport and Tourism	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	1993	13/03/1997

Key events			
24/05/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0196	Summary
17/06/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
30/10/1996	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
30/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0377/1996	
10/12/1996	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T4-0657/1996	Summary

17/01/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0005	Summary
14/04/1997	Council position published	05730/1/1997	Summary
24/04/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
18/06/1997	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		
18/06/1997	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0218/1997	
15/07/1997	Debate in Parliament		Summary
16/07/1997	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0377/1997	Summary
29/07/1997	Act approved by Council, 2nd reading		
23/09/1997	Final act signed		
23/09/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
10/10/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/0129(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 100A
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ECON/4/08732

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1996)0196 OJ C 186 26.06.1996, p. 0011	24/05/1996	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0377/1996 OJ C 380 16.12.1996, p. 0004	30/10/1996	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1267/1996 OJ C 056 24.02.1997, p. 0074	31/10/1996	ESC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0657/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0019-0025	10/12/1996	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1997)0005 OJ C 095 24.03.1997, p. 0045	17/01/1997	EC	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1997)0626	07/04/1997	EC	Summary
Council position	05730/1/1997 OJ C 157 24.05.1997, p. 0001	14/04/1997	CSL	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0218/1997 OJ C 286 22.09.1997, p. 0008	18/06/1997	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0377/1997 OJ C 286 22.09.1997, p. 0071-0083	16/07/1997	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission

[EUR-Lex](#)

Final act

[Directive 1997/54](#)
[OJ L 277 10.10.1997, p. 0024](#) Summary

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

OBJECTIVE: to amend framework directive (74/150/EEC) and certain individual directives on the maximum design speed of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors, in order to ensure freedom of movement within the internal market and improve road and passenger safety.
CONTENT: the proposal for a European Parliament and Council directive seeks to: - amend the framework directive and the individual directives on European type-approval for tractors in order to increase the maximum design speed from 30 to 40 km/h; - amend Directive 76/432/EEC on braking in order to introduce new technical specifications reflecting the fact that in future tractors will be permitted to run at faster speeds.?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

The committee adopted the report by Mrs Heidi HAUTALA (V, FIN) on the proposal for a directive on the maximum design speed of tractors (modification of a series of existing directives) (codecision first reading). The aim of the Commission proposal is to align national legislation and European directives and improve road safety. Current European legislation applies to tractors with a maximum design speed of between 6 and 30 km/h. However, an increasing number of tractors can travel at speeds in excess of 30 km/h. As a result, manufacturers are taking recourse more and more frequently to national rather than Community type-approval procedures. In order to keep pace with the market and extend the scope of the directive, the Commission proposes to extend the scope of the directive to tractors with a design speed of 40 km/h. The committee approves of this approach but highlights the need (in three new recitals) to address the following problems: the obligation to hold a driving licence, the use of seat belts, driving while under the influence of alcohol, technical controls and pollution.?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

The Committee endorses the proposed amendment to the maximum design speed for agricultural or forestry tractors, but would call on the Commission to take account of the continuous developments in tractor performance and application in the next amendment to the framework Directive, and make an unequivocal provision for tractors with maximum design speeds of over 40 km/h. This must of course be accompanied by adequate arrangements for safety and environmental protection. The Committee also calls for the regulations to be consolidated, in the interests of greater transparency. ?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

In adopting the report by Mrs HEIDI HAUTALA (Greens, Fin), Parliament approved the proposal to amend the existing Directives relating to the maximum design speed of tractors. However, it drew attention, in three recitals, to the need to: - improve and harmonize all safety aspects such as the installation of safety belts; - introduce technical controls for tractors at regular intervals; - draw up Community legislation on pollutants from tractors. ?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

The modified Commission proposal relating to the maximum design speed of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors includes the substance of two EP amendments to introduce two new recitals: - one relating to improvements and harmonization of all safety aspects such as the installation of safety belts; - the other to the effect that pollution from tractors should be the subject of Community legislation. On the other hand, the Commission rejected the amendments aimed at: - the introduction of technical controls on tractors at regular intervals (the Commission would however consider, in the framework of the appropriate procedures, what proposals should be drafted); - the addition of a new article dealing with both Community and national type-approval requirements for tractors. ?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

The Commission accepted the common position insofar as it was in line with the initial proposal and took account of the amendments requested by the European Parliament and accepted by the Commission.?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

The Council's common position largely reflects the initial proposal, taking account of the amendments adopted by Parliament and accepted by the Commission in its amended proposal. However, the common position stipulates that the Member States should adopt, publish and implement the provisions required to comply with the directive by a date within 12 months of its publication. The Council took account of the spirit of a Parliament amendment, which was not incorporated into the Commission's amended proposal, in a declaration calling on the Commission to consider the issue of the extension of the Community type-approval system for agricultural and forestry tractors to cover trailers and tractors with a maximum design speed in excess of 40 km/h, laying down the requisite safety and environmental protection rules to govern these vehicles and, if necessary, to put forward proposals without delay.?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

The rapporteur highlighted the issues of safety and limitation of pollution. As the amendments tabled by Parliament at first reading had been largely integrated in the common position, she recommended that this be adopted. Commissioner Bangemann said only that the Commission would prepare a proposal on the technical questions which applied over 40 km/h.

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

In adopting the recommendation for second reading by Mrs Heidi HAUTALA (Greens, Fin), the European Parliament approved, unamended, the common position on the amendment of a series of Directives on the maximum design speed of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors. ?

Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors: maximum design speed

OBJECTIVE: to amend framework directive (74/150/EEC) and certain individual directives on the maximum design speed of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors, in order to ensure freedom of movement within the internal market and improve road and passenger safety.
COMMUNITY MEASURE: European Parliament and Council Directive 97/54/EC. CONTENT: the directive which has been adopted seeks: - to amend the framework directive and the individual directives on European type-approval for tractors in order to increase the maximum design speed of the vehicle from 30 to 40 km/h; - to amend directive 76/432/EEC on braking in order to introduce new technical specifications reflecting the fact that in future tractors will be permitted to run at faster speeds. Two of the recitals of the directive focus on the need: - to improve and harmonise all safety aspects, such as the installation of safety belts; - to draw up Community legislation on pollution from tractors.
ENTRY INTO FORCE: 30/10/1997 DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION: 23/09/1998 ?