

placard. The petitioner asserted that even though the tire rims lack a DOT certification marking, they comply with the standard, based on their manufacturer's certification that they comply with the German TUV regulations, as well as their certification by the British Standards Association and the Rim Association of Australia.

Standard No. 206 Door Locks and Door Retention Components: installation of a push-pull locking mechanism on all door locks.

Standard No. 208 Occupant Crash Protection: installation of a complying driver's side air bag and a seat belt warning system. The petitioner asserted that the vehicle conforms to the standard's injury criteria at the front passenger position based on a test report from the vehicle's manufacturer. The petitioner additionally submitted a letter from an engineering concern stating that no difference in occupant restraint characteristics would be anticipated between the Short Wheel Base Gelaendewagen and the Long Wheel Base models that NHTSA has previously decided to be eligible for importation. This representation was based on the observation that the only structural differences in the two vehicles are found well behind the frontal crush zone, and that no structural deformation occurs in that area. The letter further stated that the Short Wheel Base Gelaendewagen is 297 pounds lighter than the Long Wheel Base model, representing a weight difference of less than 5 percent. The letter stated that this weight difference would not be expected to cause performance variation in Standard 208 crash tests. The petitioner stated that it intends to meet automatic restraint phase-in requirements for vehicles manufactured after September 1, 1995 by importing other vehicles equipped with passenger-side automatic restraints.

Standard No. 210 Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages: insertion of instructions on the installation and use of child restraints in the owner's manual for the vehicle. The petitioner submitted a letter from an engineering concern describing tests performed on a Gelaendewagen to the requirements of this standard. Based on the results of these tests, the petitioner asserted that the vehicle complies with the standard.

Standard No. 212 Windshield Retention: application of cement to the windshield's edges. The petitioner asserted that the vehicle complies with the standard based on test results for a Gelaendewagen that NHTSA previously decided to be eligible for importation.

Standard No. 301 Fuel System Integrity: installation of a rollover valve.

The petitioner asserted that the vehicle complies with the standard based on test results for a Gelaendewagen that NHTSA previously decided to be eligible for importation.

No comments were received in response to the notice of the petition. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final determination must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VCP-14 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this determination.

Final Determination

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that 1990-1996 Mercedes-Benz Type 463 Short Wheel Base Gelaendewagen MPVs are eligible for importation into the United States because they have safety features that comply with, or are capable of being altered to comply with, all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. § 30141(a)(1) (B) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on June 13, 1996.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.
[FR Doc. 96-15526 Filed 6-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

[Docket No. 96-35; Notice 2]

Decision That Nonconforming 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220 Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220 passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220 passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards

(the U.S.-certified version of the 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: This decision is effective as of the date of its publication in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. § 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR Part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the Federal Register of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the Federal Register.

Champagne Imports, Inc. of Lansdale, Pennsylvania (Registered Importer R-90-009) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220 passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition on April 5, 1996 (61 FR 15335) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition. No comments were received in response to the notice. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-157 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this decision.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that a 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220 (Model ID 202.022) not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards is substantially similar to a 1995 Mercedes-Benz C220 originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. § 30115, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: June 13, 1996.

Marilynne Jacobs,
Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.
[FR Doc. 96-15527 Filed 6-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-M

[Docket No. 96-33; Notice 2]

Decision That Nonconforming 1983 Saab 900 Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.
ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1983 Saab 900 passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1983 Saab 900 passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the U.S.-certified version of the 1983 Saab 900), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: This decision is effective as of June 19, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle

Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR Part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the Federal Register of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the Federal Register.

Pierre Enterprises Southeast Inc. of Fort Pierce, Florida (Registered Importer R-96-098) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1983 Saab 900 passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition on April 9, 1996 (61 FR 15865) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition. No comments were received in response to the notice. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-158 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this decision.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that a 1983 Saab 900 not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards is substantially similar to a 1983 Saab 900 originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: June 13, 1996.

Marilynne Jacobs,
Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.
[FR Doc. 96-15528 Filed 6-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

[Docket No. 96-059; Notice 1]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 1993 Mercedes-Benz 420E and 1994-1996 Mercedes-Benz E420 Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 1993 Mercedes-Benz 420E and 1994-1996 Mercedes-Benz E420 passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that 1993 Mercedes-Benz 420E and 1994-1996 Mercedes-Benz E420 passenger cars that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because (1) They are substantially similar to vehicles that were originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and that were certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and (2) they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is July 19, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Section, Room 5109, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 9:30 am to 4 pm]

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle