

including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for FMCSA's performance including its utility in fostering assessment of the portal; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for the FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The Agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Issued on: October 13, 2006.

John H. Hill,

Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2006-26072]

Decision That Certain Nonconforming Motor Vehicles Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that certain nonconforming motor vehicles are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces decisions by NHTSA that certain motor vehicles not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to vehicles originally manufactured for importation into and/or sale in the United States and certified by their manufacturers as complying with the safety standards, and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards or because they have safety features that comply with, or are capable of being altered to comply with, all applicable FMVSS.

DATES: These decisions became effective on the dates specified in Annex A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Coleman Sachs, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-3151).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable FMVSS 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, 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 FMVSS.

Where there is no substantially similar U.S.-certified motor vehicle, 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(B) permits a nonconforming motor vehicle to be admitted into the United States if its safety features comply with, or are capable of being altered to comply with, all applicable FMVSS based on destructive test data or such other evidence as NHTSA decides to be adequate.

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**.

NHTSA received petitions from registered importers to decide whether the vehicles listed in Annex A to this notice are eligible for importation into the United States. To afford an opportunity for public comment, NHTSA published notice of these petitions as specified in Annex A. The reader is referred to those notices for a thorough description of the petitions. No substantive comments were received in response to these notices. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioners, NHTSA has decided to grant the petitions.

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. Vehicle eligibility numbers assigned to vehicles admissible under this decision are specified in Annex A.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that

each motor vehicle listed in Annex A to this notice, which was not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable FMVSS, is either (1) Substantially similar to a motor vehicle manufactured for importation into and/or sale in the United States, and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, as specified in Annex A, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable FMVSS or (2) has 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)(A), (a)(1)(B) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: October 13, 2006.

Claude H. Harris,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

Annex A—Nonconforming Motor Vehicles Decided to Be Eligible for Importation

1. Docket No. NHTSA-2006-25398

Nonconforming Vehicles: 1999-2006 Suzuki GXS1300R Motorcycles.

Substantially Similar U.S.-Certified Vehicles: 1999-2006 Suzuki GXS1300R Motorcycles.

Notice of Petition Published at: 71 FR 41067 (July 19, 2006).

Vehicle Eligibility Number: VSP-484 (effective date August 29, 2006).

2. Docket No. NHTSA-2006-25516

Nonconforming Vehicles: 1998 Bentley Azure (Left-Hand and Right-Hand Drive) Passenger Cars.

Substantially Similar U.S.-Certified Vehicles: 1998 Bentley Azure (Left-hand drive) Passenger Cars (**Note:** Manufacturer confirmed in writing that non-U.S. certified RHD vehicles are substantially similar to U.S. certified LHD model).

Notice of Petition Published at: 71 FR 45104 (August 8, 2006).

Vehicle Eligibility Number: VSP-485 (effective date September 14, 2006).

3. Docket No. NHTSA-2006-25515

Nonconforming Vehicles: 2004 Mercedes Benz Maybach Passenger Cars.

Substantially Similar U.S.-Certified Vehicles: 2004 Mercedes Benz Maybach Passenger Cars.

Notice of Petition Published at: 71 FR 45103 (August 8, 2006).

Vehicle Eligibility Number: VSP-486 (effective date September 14, 2006).

4. Docket No. NHTSA-2006-24965

Nonconforming Vehicles: 2006 Mercedes Benz Type 463 Short Wheel Base Gelaendewagen Multipurpose Passenger Vehicles Manufactured Before September 1, 2006.

Because there are no substantially similar U.S.-certified versions of the 2006 Mercedes Benz Type 463 Short Wheel Base Gelaendewagen Multipurpose Passenger Vehicles Manufactured Before September 1,

2006, the petitioner sought import eligibility under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(B).

Notice of Petition Published at: 71 FR 34994 (June 16, 2006).

Vehicle Eligibility Number: VCP-35 (effective date July 24, 2006).

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2006-26010]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) 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 November 20, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.]. Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Coleman Sachs, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-3151).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable FMVSS 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, 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 FMVSS.

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**.

Sunshine Car Import ("SCI") of Ft. Myers, Florida, (Registered Importer 01-289) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether nonconforming 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which SCI believes are substantially similar are 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars that were manufactured for importation into, and sale in, the United States and certified by their manufacturer, Bayerische Motoren Werke, A.G. (BMW), as conforming to all applicable FMVSS.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared non-U.S.-certified 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars to their U.S.-certified counterparts, and found the vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most FMVSS.

SCI submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that non-U.S.-certified 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars, as originally manufactured, conform to many FMVSS in the same manner as their U.S.-certified counterparts, or are capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that non-U.S.-certified 2003 and 2004 BMW 3 Series passenger cars are identical to their U.S.-certified counterparts with

respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence, Starter Interlock, and Transmission Braking Effect*, 103 *Windshield Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 109 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 113 *Hood Latch Systems*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 135 *Passenger Car Brake Systems*, 201 *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*, 202 *Head Restraints*, 204 *Steering Control Rearward Displacement*, 205 *Glazing Materials*, 206 *Door Locks and Door Retention Components*, 207 *Seating Systems*, 209 *Seat Belt Assemblies*, 210 *Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages*, 212 *Windshield Retention*, 216 *Roof Crush Resistance*, 219 *Windshield Zone Intrusion*, 225 *Child Restraint Anchorage Systems*, 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*, and 401 *Interior Trunk Release*.

With regard to compliance with the Bumper Standard found in 49 CFR Part 581, the petitioner claims that the vehicles are equipped with bumpers and support structures identical to those used on U.S. certified models.

The petitioner also contends that the vehicles are capable of being readily altered to meet the following standards, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 101 *Controls and Displays*: (a) Inscription of the word "brake" on the dash in place of the international ECE warning symbol; (b) replacement of the speedometer with a unit reading in miles per hour; and (c) installation of U.S.-model software in the vehicle's computer system.

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: installation of U.S.-model headlamps, front sidemarker lamps, and a high mounted stop lamp if not already so equipped.

Standard No. 110 *Tire Selection and Rims*: installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 111 *Rearview Mirror*: replacement of the passenger side rearview mirror with a U.S.-model component, or inscription of the required warning statement on that mirror.

Standard No. 114 *Theft Protection*: reprogramming of the vehicle to actuate the appropriate safety systems during conversion of the dash.

Standard No. 118 *Power Window Systems*: alteration of the power window system to operate the required defeat device during reprogramming of the lights and dash. The petitioner states that most vehicles have the required defeat devices as standard equipment.

Standard No. 208 *Occupant Crash Protection*: Petitioner states that the