

minutes. Members of the public who would like to speak are asked to contact Raymond Barberesi by August 6, 2002. Mr. Barberesi can be reached at: telephone (202) 366-4357, fax (202) 366-6988, or e-mail

Raymond.Barberesi@marad.dot.gov.

Commenters will be placed on the agenda in the order in which notifications are received. If time allows, additional comments will be permitted. Copies of oral comments must be submitted in writing at the meeting. Additional written comments are welcome and must be filed by August 21, 2002. Send comments to the attention of Mr. Raymond Barberesi, Director, Office of Ports and Domestic Shipping, U.S. Maritime Administration, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 7201, Washington, DC 20590.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2002, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, August 14, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach Hotel, 200 South Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California 90802.

For further information contact: Raymond Barberesi, (202) 366-4357; Maritime Administration, MAR-830, Room 7201, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590; *Raymond.Barberesi@marad.dot.gov.*

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. App 2, Sec. 9(a)(2); 41 CFR part 102-3 DOT Order 1120.3B)

Dated: July 22, 2002.

Joel C. Richard,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 02-18853 Filed 7-24-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2002-12732]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster Passenger Cars Manufactured Before September 1, 2002 Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002 are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic

Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002 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 August 26, 2002.

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.].

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), 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, 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**.

Automobile Concepts, Inc. of North Miami, Florida ("AMC") (Registered Importer 01-278) has petitioned NHTSA

to decide whether 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002 are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which AMC believes are substantially similar are 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002 that were manufactured for importation into, and sale in, the United States and certified by their manufacturer as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared non-U.S. certified 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002 to their U.S.-certified counterparts, and found the vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

AMC submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that non-U.S. certified 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002, as originally manufactured, conform to many Federal motor vehicle safety standards 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 1997-2001 and 2002 Porsche Boxster passenger cars manufactured before September 1, 2002 are identical to their U.S. certified counterparts with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence* * * *, 103 *Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 105 *Hydraulic Brake Systems*, 106 *Brake Hoses*, 109 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 113 *Hood Latch Systems*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 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*, 214 *Side Impact Protection*, 219 *Windshield Zone Intrusion*, and 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*.

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 U.S.-model component calibrated to read in miles.

Standard No. 108 Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment: (a) Installation of U.S.-model headlamps; (b) installation of U.S.-model side markers; (c) installation of U.S.-model tail lamp assemblies which incorporate rear sidemarker lights; (d) installation of a U.S.-model high mounted stop light assembly if the vehicle is 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: activation of the warning buzzer.

Standard No. 118 Power Window Systems: reprogramming of the power window system so that the windows will not operate with the ignition off.

Standard No. 201 Occupant Protection in Interior Impact: inspection of each vehicle to ensure that appropriate components have been installed to meet the requirements of the standard, and replacement of any component that is not a U.S.-model part. The petitioner states that the manufacturer has identified the vehicle as meeting the upper interior head impact requirements of the standard.

Standard No. 208 Occupant Crash Protection: (a) Activation of the seat belt warning buzzer by reprogramming the unit; (b) inspection of all vehicles and replacement of the driver's and passenger's side air bags, control units, sensors, and seat belts with U.S.-model components on vehicles that are not already so equipped. Petitioner states that the front and rear outboard designated seating positions have combination lap and shoulder belts that are self-tensioning and that release by means of a single red pushbutton. Petitioner further states that the vehicles are equipped with a seat belt warning lamp that is identical to the lamp installed on U.S.-certified models.

Standard No. 301 Fuel System Integrity: installation of a rollover valve in the fuel tank vent line between the fuel tank and the evaporative emissions collection canister.

The petitioner states that the bumpers and bumper support structure on all vehicles must be inspected and, where necessary, replaced with U.S.-model bumper shocks, reinforcements, and pads to meet the Bumper Standard found in 49 CFR Part 581.

The petitioner also states that a vehicle identification plate must be affixed to the vehicles near the left

windshield post and a reference and certification label must be affixed in the area of the left front door post to meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 565.

The petitioner states that because anti-theft devices are installed on the vehicles, they are with exempt from the parts marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard at 49 CFR Part 541

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket 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.]. It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

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: July 18, 2002.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance. [FR Doc. 02-18756 Filed 7-24-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2002-12731]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming Left-Hand Drive Japanese Market 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee Multipurpose Passenger Vehicles Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming left-hand drive (LHD) Japanese Market 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee multipurpose passenger vehicles (MPVs) are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that LHD 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee MPVs manufactured for sale in Japan that were

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 vehicles that were originally manufactured for sale in the United States and that were certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is August 26, 2002.

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.].

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), 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, 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**.

Auto Enterprises of Warren Michigan (Registered Importer 93-013) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether LHD 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee MPVs originally manufactured for sale in Japan are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which Auto Enterprises believes are