

Motocycle industry and environment: components and characteristic of two- or three- wheel motor vehicles

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The rapporteur considered that improvements should be made in the area of tampering, noise levels and emissions. Commissioner BANGEMANN wondered whether the EP wanted to protect the environment and improve road safety or renounce all of its principles to satisfy certain interests. The amendments on tampering would only ban tampering with mopeds; that would allow motorcycles to be completely transformed, thus preventing any type-approval. As far as noise levels were concerned, a difference of 3 decibels represented a 50% increase in sound pressure. The amendments on emission limits would result in a 160% increase compared with the Commission proposal. He therefore rejected all of the amendments with the exception of two. On 6 April, after the adoption of the proposal and before the vote on the legislative resolution, the rapporteur, taking into account the Commission's opinion (formalised following a written declaration), which was opposed to most of the amendments (with the exception of Amendments Nos 4 and 25), proposed that the resolution be referred back to the competent committee. Parliament supported this proposal, on the basis of Rule 60(2), with a view to reaching an acceptable final compromise (see vote in plenary).