

Speech of Commissioner Charlie McCreevy to the European Parliament, Committee on Legal Affairs [JURI], Brussels, 21st November 2006 (excerpt)

“My final remarks are on spare parts and the Commission’s proposal on a designs directive. You will agree that it is not sufficient just to talk about creating opportunities for small and medium-sized firms. Here is an opportunity to do something about it.

Now that the study on safety aspects which was commissioned by your Committee has been finalised, I very much look forward to you resuming the discussion on this issue. The study confirms our understanding that the safety aspect is unrelated to the issue of design protection. I therefore hope for the European Parliament’s full support for the Commission’s proposal. This would have a positive effect on the debate in Council”.