



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO.,. 357
30 October 1974

**INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION REPORT - STEAM, GAS
AND WATER FITTINGS**

The Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, announced today that the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Industries Assistance Commission in its report on steam, gas and water fittings, subject to international commitments. The report was released on 13 August 1974.

The report covers tube and pipe fittings of non-ferrous metals and valves (including actuators). The fittings are predominantly of copper or its alloys and, of these, most are plumbing fittings. The large range of valves varies in type, size and application.

The Government's decision to implement the Commission's recommendations will mean that a rate of duty of 25 per cent will apply to valves and actuators and a rate of 20 per cent to tube and pipe fittings of copper, nickel and their alloys. Minimum rates will apply to tube and pipe fittings of other metals.

Mr Whitlam said that details of the customs tariff changes and revised by-law arrangements arising from the Government's acceptance of the Commission's report will be announced when administrative arrangements to implement them have been finalised. In the interests of consistency, in the tariff treatment of valves some minor changes in respect of certain valves not covered by the Commission's report will also be announced.

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