EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations make provision for the operation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 6/2002 of 12th December 2001 (O.J. No. L 3, 5.1.2002, p.1) on the Community design ("the Community Design Regulation").

Regulation 2 provides a remedy for any person who is aggrieved by groundless threats being made to bring infringement proceedings in relation to Community designs.

Regulation 3 creates two new offences related to falsely representing a design as a registered Community design.

Regulation 4 creates a privilege for communications between a person who is on the special list of professional design representatives maintained in pursuance of Article 78 of the Community Design Regulation and his client.

Regulation 5 in conjunction with the Schedule to these Regulations provides for the Crown use of Community designs in accordance with Article 23 of the Community Designs Regulation. Similar provisions are applied to national unregistered designs under sections 240 to 244 and section 252 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (c. 48) and to registered designs in accordance with the First Schedule to the Registered Designs Act 1949 (c. 88).

Regulation 6 amends section 35 of the Registered Designs Act 1949 so that the use of the term "registered" in relation to a design is deemed to mean registered under that Act unless it is shown that it is registered elsewhere than the United Kingdom.

A Regulatory Impact Assessment is available. Copies of the assessment have been placed in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament and are also available from the Intellectual Property and Innovation Directorate, The Patent Office, Concept House, Cardiff Road, Newport NP10 8QQ.

Changes to legislation:
There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Community Design Regulations 2005.