

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Amendment Export Visa Requirements for Certain Silk Apparel and Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China

October 18, 1995.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs providing for the use of export licenses/commercial invoices printed on light green guilloche paper.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Aldrich, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854).

The Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China have agreed to amend the existing export visa requirements to provide for the use of export licenses/commercial invoices, issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China, for shipments of goods produced or manufactured in China and exported from China on and after January 1, 1996, which are printed on light green guilloche patterned background paper. The light green form replaces the purple export license/commercial invoice currently in use. The visa stamp is not being changed at this time. The Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC, will continue to issue the white pre-printed replacement visa now in use.

Shipments of textile and apparel products which are produced or manufactured in China and exported from China during the period January 1, 1996 through February 28, 1996 may be accompanied by a visa printed on either the purple or light green background paper.

See 59 FR 35324, published on July 11, 1994; and 60 FR 22567, published on May 8, 1995.

D. Michael Hutchinson,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

October 18, 1995.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directives issued to you on July 5, 1994 and May 3, 1995, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. Those directives establish export visa arrangements for certain silk apparel and cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend, and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in the People's Republic of China.

Effective on January 1, 1996, you are directed to amend the July 5, 1994 and May 3, 1995 directives to provide for the use of export licenses/commercial invoices issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China which are printed on light green guilloche patterned background paper. The light green form will replace the purple form currently being used. The Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC, will continue to issue the white pre-printed replacement visa now in use.

To facilitate implementation of this amendment to the export licensing system, I request that you permit entry of textile products, produced or manufactured in China and exported from China during the period January 1, 1996 through February 28, 1996, for which the Government of the People's Republic of China has issued either a purple or light green export license/commercial invoice.

Goods exported on and after March 1, 1996 must be accompanied by an export visa issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China on the light green license/invoice form only.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not accompanied by an appropriate export visa shall be denied entry and a new visa must be obtained.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

D. Michael Hutchinson,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 95-26272 Filed 10-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Carbon Monoxide Detectors; Public Hearing

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Commission will conduct a public hearing on January 23 and 24, 1996, to receive scientific, medical, and other technical information about carbon monoxide (CO) detectors and a voluntary standard for CO detectors. The Commission seeks written submissions and oral presentations from individuals, associations, or firms with substantiated information or technical comments on these topics. The Commission will use the information obtained from this hearing to evaluate an existing voluntary standard for CO detectors and to develop information for consumers about the reliability of CO detectors.

DATES: The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. on January 23, 1996, and will conclude on January 24, 1996. Written comments and requests to make oral presentations must be received by the Office of the Secretary not later than January 9, 1996. Persons desiring to make oral presentations at this hearing must submit a written abstract of their presentations not later than January 9, 1996. The Commission reserves the right to limit the number of persons who testify and the duration of their testimony.

ADDRESSES: The hearing will be in room 420 of the East-West Towers Building, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland. Written comments, requests to make oral presentations, and abstracts of oral presentations should be captioned "Carbon Monoxide Detectors" and mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207, or delivered to that office, room 502, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the purpose or subject matter of the hearing, call or write Elizabeth Leland, Directorate for Economic Analysis, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207; telephone (301) 504-0962, extension 1321. For information about the schedule for submission of written comments, requests to make oral presentations, and submission of abstracts of oral presentations, call or write Rockelle Hammond, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207;

telephone (301) 504-0800, extension 1232

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas, produced by the incomplete combustion of solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels. Household appliances fueled with gas, oil, kerosene, or wood may produce CO.

Breathing CO causes symptoms ranging from headaches and dizziness to nausea, vomiting, and disorientation. At very high levels, CO can cause loss of consciousness and death. In 1992, the last year for which complete data are available, an estimated 212 deaths resulted from carbon monoxide poisoning. In 1994, there were an estimated 3,900 incidents involving one or more persons treated in hospital emergency rooms for CO poisoning.

Standard for CO Detectors

In the early 1990's CO detectors became available for use in the home. In 1992, Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) published a standard, UL 2034, for CO detectors. The Commission staff worked with UL to develop this standard. Since publication of UL 2034, the Commission has encouraged homeowners to install CO detectors certified to meet the standard, and has urged organizations which publish model building codes to adopt provisions requiring the installation of CO detectors in new residential buildings. The Commission estimates that between seven and eight million CO detectors are now in use.

Unexplained CO Detector Alarms

Early in 1994, the Commission began receiving information about incidents in which fire fighters or utility employees responded to calls after a CO detector sounded an alarm but were unable to detect the presence of CO or a harmful level of CO.

In June, 1994, the Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the American Gas Association, the Gas Research Institute, and the National Association of State Fire Marshals co-sponsored a CO Detector Workshop. The purpose of this workshop was to raise and find ways to resolve questions about why CO detectors would sound an alarm when CO either could not be detected or could be detected at a level which is not harmful. One outgrowth of the workshop was the formation of non-governmental task forces to address the following specific issues:

- Technical guidance for response personnel;
- Field and laboratory testing;
- Consumer and professional education;

- Standards evaluation;
- Action levels; and
- Data gathering and coordination.

The task forces are expected to complete their work in December, 1995, and file final reports in March, 1996.

Chicago Experience

While the task forces have been working, additional information from widespread use of CO detectors has become available from the city of Chicago, Illinois. In 1993, the city of Chicago adopted an ordinance requiring installation of CO detectors bearing the mark of a nationally recognized testing laboratory in all homes heated by a fossil fuel-burning furnace or appliance. This ordinance became effective on October 1, 1994.

Fire departments in Chicago reported that between October 1 and December 31, 1994, they responded to approximately 8,600 calls after CO detectors sounded alarms. In the majority of cases, the responding fire department found no CO present, or a level of CO that was not harmful to health. In December, 1994, UL proposed a series of revisions to its voluntary standard for CO detectors to lessen the likelihood of alarm activations when CO is not present at a detectable or harmful level. Portions of the revised standard became effective on June 1, 1995; the remainder of the standard became effective on October 1, 1995.

Unresolved Questions

Several questions about CO detectors and the UL standard for CO detectors are still unresolved. These questions include, but are not limited to:

- What is the appropriate scope and purpose of a voluntary standard for CO detectors?
- What are the effects of exposure to CO, including exposure at low levels, to healthy individuals and to individuals who might be especially susceptible to the effects of CO?
- What are the anticipated "normal" levels of CO in the ambient air inside and outside the home?
- What factors should determine the mandatory activation and mandatory resistance level of CO for CO detectors; what level of CO should activate a detector's alarm; at what level of CO should a CO detector resist activation of the alarm?
- What is the relative reliability of the various CO sensor technologies now available?

Request for Information

To obtain information relevant to these questions, the Commission will conduct a public hearing on January 23

and 24, 1996. The Commission solicits written submissions and oral presentations of scientific, medical, and technical information, documented studies, and analyses from all interested parties on the following topics:

I. Health Effects

A. Health effects of exposure to CO, including exposure at low levels, on healthy individuals and individuals who might be especially susceptible to the effects of CO.

B. Medical opinion about mandatory activation levels of CO for CO detector alarms.

C. Medical opinion concerning early warning signals in addition to activation of CO detector alarms.

II. Analysis of Unexplained Alarm Activation

A. Data and analyses related to unexplained CO detector alarm activation experienced in Chicago during 1994, or in other locations in the United States.

B. Analyses of unexplained activations of CO detector alarms experienced in other countries.

III. Expected Levels of CO

A. Expected levels of CO in a "typical" home.

B. Expected levels of ambient CO in outside air in various locations in the United States: on "usual" days; in "rush hour" periods; during temperature inversions.

IV. CO Detector Standards

CO detector standards issued by governments outside the United States, or by international standards organizations.

V. Human Factors Issues

A. Information relating to the effective communication of a warning signal and an alarm; information relating to a consumer's ability to distinguish different levels of urgency—e.g., an early warning as opposed to an alarm.

B. The effect of unexplained alarms on consumer attentiveness to alarms, particularly CO detector alarms.

C. The effect of consistency:

1. in instructions for installation and use of CO detectors.

2. in warning and alarm sounds for various models of CO detectors.

D. The effectiveness of labeling to influence user behavior.

VI. Needs of Responders to Alarms from CO Detectors

A. Collected information on the extent to which responders in the fire services and gas utility companies around the

country are equipped with appropriate instruments for measuring CO in homes.

B. Collected information on the extent to which educational programs for responders have been developed and implemented around the country.

C. Collected information about the impact on responders of CO detector alarm activations around the country.

VII. Needs of Consumers

A. Numbers of calls received by hotlines operated by manufacturers of CO detectors.

B. Manufacturers' procedures for responding to hotline calls, especially those involving unexplained activations.

Written comments and requests to make oral presentations must be received by the Office of the Secretary not later than January 9, 1996. Persons desiring to make oral presentations at the hearing must submit an abstract of their presentations by January 9, 1996. Abstracts must include the author's affiliation with, or employment or sponsorship by, any professional organization, government agency, or business firm. All data analyses and studies should include substantiation and citations.

The Commission will establish time limits for all presentations, and may impose further limitations on presentations to avoid duplication. At the conclusion of each oral presentation, the Commissioners and selected staff members may question speakers.

Dated: October 18, 1995.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

[FR Doc. 95-26355 Filed 10-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0107]

Request for Public Comments Regarding OMB Clearance Entitled Notice of Radioactive Materials

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0107).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Notice of Radioactive Materials. This OMB clearance currently expires on February 28, 1996.

DATES: Comment Due Date: December 26, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, or obtaining a copy of the justification, should be submitted to: General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (VRS), 18th & F Streets NW., Room 4037, Washington, DC 20405. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0107, Notice of Radioactive Materials, in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Ralph De Stefano, Office of Federal Acquisition Policy, GSA (202) 501-1758.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

The clause at FAR 52.223-7, Notice of Radioactive Materials, requires contractors to notify the Government prior to delivery of items containing radioactive materials. The purpose of the notification is to alert receiving activities that appropriate safeguards may need to be instituted. The notice shall specify the part or parts of the items which contain radioactive materials, a description of the materials, the name and activity of the isotope, the manufacturer of the materials, and any other information known to the Contractor which will put users of the items on notice as to the hazards involved.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The annual reporting burden is estimated as follows: Respondents, 500; responses per respondent, 5; total annual responses, 2,500; preparation hours per response, 1; and total response burden hours, 2,500.

Dated: October 18, 1995.

Beverly Fayson,

FAR Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 95-26222 Filed 10-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Patent License, Delta Temax, Inc.

AGENCY: U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command.

ACTION: Notice of prospective exclusive license.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.7 (a)(1)(i), announcement is made of a prospective exclusive license of a body heating and cooling system.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Vincent J. Ranucci, Patent Counsel, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command, Attn: AMSSC-CC (Office of Chief Counsel), Natick, Massachusetts 01760-5035.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The body heating and cooling system was invented by Mr. Stephen Szczesuil and Mr. Rizalah Masadi (U.S. Patent Number 5,320,164 issued June 14, 1994). Rights to this invention are owned by the U.S. Government as represented by the U.S. Army Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center (Natick RD&E Center). Under the authority of Section 11(a)(2) of the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-502) and Section 207 of Title 35, U.S. Code, the Department of the Army as represented by Natick RD&E Center intends to grant an exclusive license on the body heating and cooling system to Delta Temax, Inc., 320 Boundary Road, Pembroke, Ontario K8A 6W5, Canada. Pursuant to 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), any interested party may file written objections to this prospective exclusive license arrangement. Written objections should be directed to: Mr. Vincent J. Ranucci, Patent Counsel, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command, Attn: AMSSC-CC (Office of Chief Counsel), Natick, Massachusetts 01760-5035. Written objections must be filed on or before December 26, 1995.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 95-26290 Filed 10-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

Corps of Engineers

Minimum Fees for Camp Ground Use

AGENCY: Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.