

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Application for Extension of Bond for Temporary Importation**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, Customs invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection requirement concerning the Application for Extension of Bond for Temporary Importation. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before August 12, 1996, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESS:** Direct all written comments to U.S. Customs Service, Printing and Records Services Group, Room 6216, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20229.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to U.S. Customs Service, Attn.: J. Edgar Nichols, Room 6216, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20229, Tel. (202) 927-1426.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Customs invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)). The comments should address the accuracy of the burden estimates and ways to minimize the burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology, as well as other relevant aspects of the information collection. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the Customs request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this document Customs is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

*Title:* Application for Extension of Bond for Temporary Importation.

*OMB Number:* 1515-0054.

*Form Number:* Customs Form 3173.

*Abstract:* Imported merchandise which is to remain in the U.S. Customs territory for 1-year or less without duty

payment is entered as a temporary importation. The importer may apply for an extension of this period on Customs Form 3173.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes to the information collection. This submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

*Type of Review:* Extension (without change).

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,155.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 10 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,694.

*Estimated Total Annualized Cost on the Public:* \$43,100.

Dated: June 3, 1996.

V. Carol Barr,

Printing and Records Services Group.

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**BILLING CODE 4820-02-P**

**New Rules of Origin for Country of Origin Declarations Covering Textiles and Textile Products**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** General notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document reminds the public that new rules of origin will apply for purposes of preparing and filing country of origin declarations for importations of textiles and textile products entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after July 1, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For operational aspects: Mark Laria, Chief, Commercial Enforcement, Office of Field Operations (202-927-0370). For information about the new rules of origin, contact the Textiles Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings (202-482-7050).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Section 12.130, Customs Regulations (19 CFR 12.130) concerns the country of origin of textiles and textile products that are subject to section 204, Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854). Paragraph (f) of § 12.130 provides that all importations of textiles and textile products subject to section 204 shall be accompanied by the appropriate declaration(s) set forth in subparagraph (f)(1) (single country declaration) or subparagraph (f)(2) (multiple country declaration). Further,

paragraph (g) of § 12.130 provides that release of articles from Customs custody will be denied until the country of origin determination can be made by Customs. In the event that a textile or textile product is released from Customs custody and it is subsequently determined that the merchandise is not entitled to admission into the commerce of the United States because its country of origin was not accurately represented to Customs, a demand for redelivery will be made as provided in § 141.113(b), Customs Regulations (19 CFR 141.113(b)).

On September 5, 1995, Customs published in the Federal Register (60 FR 46188) a final rule document setting forth, in § 102.21, Customs Regulations (19 CFR 102.21), new rules of origin applicable to textile and apparel products. Those new rules control the determination of the country of origin of textile and apparel products for purposes of the Customs laws and the administration of quantitative restrictions and thus must be applied for purposes of preparing and filing the country declarations provided for in § 12.130(f) of the Customs Regulations. The new rules are effective for merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after July 1, 1996. The new rules do not allow for any grace period.

The purpose of this notice is to remind importers that they should be particularly alert in the case of merchandise shipped prior to July 1, 1996, that will be entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after that date. If the new rules of origin result in a country of origin determination that is different from that reached under previously applicable rules, the visa (if applicable), country declaration and country of origin marking pertaining to the merchandise may not be valid for entry and release purposes. Importers are also reminded that, pursuant to section 484, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1484), reasonable care must be used when declaring the country of origin to Customs, which includes the accurate completion and/or verification of country declarations required under § 12.130 of the Customs Regulations.

Dated: June 6, 1996.

Samuel H. Banks,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.

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