

East Windsor, New Jersey. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on April 11, 1997.

The Conair facility (500,000 sq. ft. on 52-acres) is located at 150 Milford Road in East Windsor, New Jersey. Operations conducted under FTZ procedures at the facility will include warehousing/distribution, testing, repackaging, and service/repair of a variety of consumer products, and in some cases this activity will involve reassembly and a change in Customs classification of incoming foreign components. Finished products include: electric personal care appliances (e.g., hair dryers/trimmers, massagers, heating pads, toothbrushes); beauty care products; small kitchen appliances/cookware, (e.g., food processors/mixers/grinders, pasta makers, toasters, blenders, coffee/espresso makers); and consumer telephones and answering machines. Foreign components that would be used in reassembly/service activity include: plastic handles and knobs, fasteners, knives, fans, electric motors, generators, transformers, telephone components, microphones, loudspeakers, earphones, resistors, printed circuits, switches, diodes, integrated circuits, conductors, insulators, and timing devices.

Zone procedures will exempt Conair from Customs duty payments on the foreign items used in its exports. On its domestic sales, the company will be able to defer Customs duty payments, and, on the service/repair activity that involves the use of foreign components, the company will be able to choose the lower Customs duty rates that might apply to finished products (range: duty-free—8.5%). The rates on the foreign parts used at the facility range from duty-free to 12.5 percent. The applicant indicates that zone procedures will help improve the international competitiveness of the company's U.S. operations.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ staff has been appointed examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is June 23, 1997. Rebuttal comments in response to material

submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to July 7, 1997).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

U.S. Department of Commerce, Export Assistance Center, 3131 Princeton Pike, Building 6, Suite 100, Trenton, New Jersey 08648  
Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 3716, U.S. Department of Commerce 14th & Pennsylvania Aves., NW, Washington, DC 20230

Dated: April 16, 1997.

**John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,**

*Executive Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 28-97]

#### **Foreign-Trade Zone 66—Wilmington, NC, Application for Subzone Status, Unifi, Inc., Plant (Polyester Partially-Oriented Yarn) Yadkinville, NC**

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, grantee of FTZ 66, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the polyester yarn manufacturing plant of Unifi, Inc. (Unifi), located at 1641 Shacktown Road, Yadkinville (Yadkin County), North Carolina. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR Part 400). It was formally filed on April 10, 1997.

The Unifi facility (18 acres, 329,000 sq. ft.), currently under construction, consists of a melt monofilament spinning plant that will produce polyester partially-oriented (POY) yarn for the U.S. market and export. The production process involves melting polyethylene terephthalate (PET) chips (HTSUS# 3907.60.0050, duty rate: 2.2¢/kg+8.2%), extruding the molten PET into monofilament partially-oriented yarn (HTSUS# 5402.33). The application indicates that up to 30 percent of the PET consumed in the production process could be purchased from abroad

and would be admitted pursuant to FTZ procedures under privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41).

FTZ procedures would exempt Unifi from Customs duty payments on the foreign PET used in export production (some 30% of shipments). On its domestic sales, the company would be able to defer duty payments on the foreign PET until the finished polyester POY yarn is entered for consumption. Unifi is also seeking to eliminate duty payments on certain foreign PET which, under FTZ procedures, could qualify as accountable loss in the manufacturing process (2% loss rate). FTZ procedures would also allow the deferral of duty payments on foreign capital equipment until fully assembled and ready for production. Certain foreign components of such equipment having higher individual duty rates (4.1%) could qualify for the lower finished spinning equipment rate (1.8%) when Customs entry is made on the equipment. The application indicates that subzone status would help improve the Unifi facility's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and three copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is June 23, 1997. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to July 7, 1997).

A copy of the application and the accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

U.S. Department of Commerce, Export Assistance Center, 521 E. Morehead Street, Suite 435, Charlotte, NC 28202  
Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3716, 14th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230-0002

Dated: April 14, 1997.

**John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,**

*Executive Secretary.*

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