

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 970326070-7204-02]

Notice of Delayed Termination of Validation Services for Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS)

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; Delayed termination of validation services.

SUMMARY: The NIST Information Technology Laboratory (NIST) is terminating validation services for FIPS 21-4, COBOL; FIPS 69-1 FORTRAN; FIPS 128-2, Computer Graphics Metafile, Air Transport Association Profile (CGM (ATA)); FIPS 160, C, and FIPS 151-2, POSIX.

NIST announced by Department Organization Order 30-2B the formation of the Information Technology Laboratory (ITL). Under the new ITL organization, NIST is refocusing its program for information technology, concentrating on the development of conformance tests for emerging information technologies rather than the operation of software testing services. NIST will assist private industry and government agencies in establishing testing programs for these standards by providing NIST conformance testing materials to interested parties.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Validation services for FIPS 151-2, POSIX, will terminate on December 31, 1997. Validation services for FIPS 21-4, COBOL; FIPS 69-1, FORTRAN; FIPS 128-2, CGM (ATA); and FIPS 160, C, will terminate on or before September 30, 1998. These validation services will terminate before September 30, 1998, if other private industry and/or government agency testing programs have been established.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR COMMENTS CONTACT: Ms. Lynne Rosenthal, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone (301) 975-3283, email 1sr@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NIST announced on April 8, 1997, (62 FR 16788-89) that it was considering the termination of the validation services for FIPS 21-4, COBOL; FIPS 69-1, FORTRAN; FIPS 128-2 CGM (ATA); FIPS 151-2, POSIX; and FIPS 160, C. In response to comments on the April 8, 1997, announcement, NIST is delaying termination of these services to give private industry and/or government agencies more time to establish their own validation services. If private

industry and/or government agency testing programs are established before September 30, 1998, NIST may announce an earlier date for terminating services.

A Director of Conformance Testing Programs, Products, and Services is available on the World Wide Web (WWW) at the Universal Resource Locator (URL) <http://www.nist.gov/ctdirectory.html>. NIST test suites and testing procedures are distributed freely and are accessible from the Directory. Additional conformance testing information is available on the URL <http://www.itl.nist.gov/div897/ctg>.

Authority: Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Pub. L. 104-106.

Dated: October 3, 1997.

Elaine Bunten-Mines,

Director, Program Office.

[FR Doc. 97-26878 Filed 10-9-97; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Thailand

October 6, 1997.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs adjusting import limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 14, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Arnold, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927-5850. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

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); Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

The current limits for certain categories are being adjusted, variously, for swing, carryover and carryforward.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 61 FR 66263, published on December 17, 1996). Also see 61 FR 58044, published on November 12, 1996.

The letter to the Commissioner of Customs and the actions taken pursuant to it are not designed to implement all of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of their provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

October 6, 1997.

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

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on November 4, 1996, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in Thailand and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1997 and extending through December 31, 1997.

Effective on October 14, 1997, you are directed to adjust the limits for the following categories, as provided for under the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹
Level not in a group	
239	6,383,885 kilograms.
Levels in Group I	
200	1,173,838 kilograms.
218	19,718,381 square meters.
219	5,047,742 square meters.
300	4,853,176 kilograms.
301-P ²	4,853,176 kilograms.
301-O ³	970,636 kilograms.
313	22,648,154 square meters.
314	51,767,208 square meters.
315	32,354,504 square meters.
317/326	13,582,734 square meters.
363	22,259,429 numbers.
369-D ⁴	231,335 kilograms.
369-S ⁵	261,134 kilograms.