

Dated: March 20, 2002.

Ann Terbush,

Chief, Permits, Conservation, and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton and Wool Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Republic of Korea

March 19, 2002.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 25, 2002.

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, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel website at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended. The current limits for certain categories are being reduced for carryforward used.

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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 66 FR 65178, published on December 18, 2001). Also see 66 FR 59578, published on November 29, 2001.

James C. Leonard III,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

March 19, 2002.

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 23, 2001, 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 in the following categories, produced or manufactured in the Republic of Korea and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 2002 and extends through December 31, 2002.

Effective on March 25, 2002, you are directed to reduce the limits for the following categories, as provided for under the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹
Sublevels within Group II	
338/339	1,427,770 dozen.
435	37,396 dozen.

¹ The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

James C. Leonard III,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 02-7070 Filed 3-22-02; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Request for Public Comment on a Petition to Amend a Rule of Origin under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

March 19, 2002.

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

ACTION: Request for Public Comments concerning a petition filed under Section 7.2 of Annex 300-B of NAFTA to amend the NAFTA rules of origin for certain men's and boy's woven shirts.

SUMMARY: On February 26, 2002 the Chairman of CITA received a petition from the American Textile Manufacturers Institute (ATMI) requesting CITA to commence consultations with the governments of Canada and Mexico for the purpose of amending the rules of origin set forth in Annex 401 of the NAFTA for Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) subheadings 6205.20 - 6205.30. In

particular, ATMI requests that paragraph (c) of the subheading rule applicable to HTS subheadings 6205.20 - 6205.30 be deleted.

ATMI claims that the fabrics described in paragraph (c) of the subheading note are currently being produced in commercial quantities in the United States and are available in a timely manner. Specifically, ATMI claims that Dan River, Inc., an ATMI member, currently has in its line a fabric that conforms to the following specifications:

Fiber content	60% cotton / 40% polyester
Weight	108.5 grams per square meter
Construction	Plain weave, not of square construction
Thread count	74 per square centimeter
Average yarn size	71.07 metric
Finish	Available bleached and dyed

A modification of the NAFTA rules of origin may only be made after reaching agreement with the other NAFTA parties. CITA hereby solicits public comments on this petition, in particular with regard to whether the fabric described above can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. Comments must be submitted by **April 24, 2002.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martin Walsh, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 USC 1854); Section 202(q) of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (19 USC 3332(q)); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended

BACKGROUND:

Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), NAFTA countries are required to eliminate customs duties on textile and apparel goods that qualify as originating goods under the NAFTA rules of origin, which are set out in Annex 401 to the NAFTA. The NAFTA provides that the rules of origin for textile and apparel products may be amended through a subsequent agreement by the NAFTA countries. In consultations regarding such a change, the NAFTA countries are to consider issues of availability of supply of fibers, yarns, or fabrics in the free trade area and whether domestic producers are