

requirements within the agency's budgetary goals and it serves as a guideline for the acquisition.

Annual Acquisition Plans—As a means of funds control, prioritization, and workload scheduling, USPTO intends to continue to utilize yearly acquisition plans that are tied to the budget process. The plans should be updated as priorities and funding changes occur to ensure accuracy and currency. Plans will be concise. All planned acquisitions for a given fiscal year should be included on the yearly acquisition plan.

Separate Project Agreements—The USPTO may use a separate project agreement for individual or multiple actions that utilize the Alternative Streamlined Contracting Approach. Project Agreement documents tailored to the size and complexity of the various acquisitions will be developed.

Individual Acquisition Plans—The content of the individual acquisition plan shall be left to the discretion of the Contracting Officer. At a minimum, acquisitions plans should contain the following:

- a. Statement of need.
- b. Applicable conditions.
- c. Cost.
- d. Risks.
- e. Plan of action.
- f. Milestones.

Printing Requirements

The Patent and Trademark Efficiency Act, 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(4)(B), exempts the USPTO from requirements for printing by the Government Printing Office. Accordingly the USPTO intends to acquire printing by the most economic and efficient means available, which may in particular acquisitions include the Government Printing Office.

Market Research

The purpose of USPTO's approach to market research is to identify and determine the availability of products or services that will satisfy its requirements. The USPTO will use such research, as appropriate, to help it ascertain the most efficient acquisition strategy—with consideration of the range of potential sources, availability of commercial items, and identification of standard commercial practices. Accordingly, the USPTO intends to conduct market research that, to the extent possible, is based upon clear statements of an acquisition's intended outcome and does not foreclose, before research is conducted, the consideration of any reasonable solution or technology for accomplishing its goal. The best result of market research will be

achieved when there is a clear statement of the acquisition's intended outcome.

Market research is the responsibility of the entire acquisition team. USPTO Contracting Officers should work closely with technical/program staff to ensure that appropriate market research is conducted. The extent and results of market research efforts should be documented in acquisition planning documents and/or project agreements when the Alternative Streamlined Contracting Approach is utilized.

Bid Protests

The USPTO continues to be subject to the bid protest jurisdiction of the General Accounting Office and of the Court of Federal Claims. The USPTO is also subject to 6 Executive Order 12979 concerning protests to the agency. Its procedures for considering such protests are available at: <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/comp/proc/protest.htm>.

Dated: October 17, 2002.

James E. Rogan,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Wool Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Romania

October 17, 2002.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 23, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, 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 adjusted for special shift.

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 63033, published on December 4, 2001.

Philip J. Martello,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

October 17, 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 27, 2001, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textiles and textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in Romania and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 2002 and extends through December 31, 2002.

Effective on October 23, 2002, you are directed to adjust the limits for the following categories, as provided for under the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹
435	18,749 dozen.
443	31,068 numbers.

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,
Philip J. Martello,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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BILLING CODE 3510-DR-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Army Science Board; Notice of Open Meeting

In accordance with Section 19(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act