

by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner and certain procedural requirements have been met. In Presidential Proclamation 7351, the President proclaimed that this treatment would apply to such apparel articles from fabrics or yarns designated by the appropriate U.S. government authority in the Federal Register. In Executive Order 13191, the President authorized the Committee to determine whether particular yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA.

On December 18, 2003, the Committee received a request alleging that certain fabrics, classified in HTSUS subheading 5210.11, not of square construction, containing more than 70 warp ends and filling picks per square centimeter, of average yarn number exceeding 70 metric, used in the production of women's and girls' blouses, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA. It requested that apparel articles from such fabrics be eligible for preferential treatment under the CBTPA. On December 24, 2003, the Committee requested public comment on the petition (68 FR 74554). On January 9, 2004, the Committee and the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) sought the advice of the Industry Sector Advisory Committee for Wholesaling and Retailing and the Industry Sector Advisory Committee for Textiles and Apparel. On January 9, 2004, the Committee and USTR offered to hold consultations with the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate (collectively, the Congressional Committees). On January 29, 2004, the U.S. International Trade Commission provided advice on the petition. Based on the information and advice received and its understanding of the industry, the Committee determined that the fabrics set forth in the request cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. On February 13, 2004, the Committee and USTR submitted a report to the Congressional Committees that set forth the action proposed, the reasons for such action, and advice obtained. A period of 60 calendar days since this report was submitted has expired, as required by the CBTPA.

The Committee hereby designates as eligible for preferential treatment under subheading 9820.11.27 of the HTSUS, women's and girls' blouses, that are both cut and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more eligible beneficiary CBTPA countries, from fabrics, classified in subheading 5210.11

of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), not of square construction, containing more than 70 warp ends and filling picks per square centimeter, of average yarn number exceeding 70 metric, not formed in the United States, provided that all other fabrics are wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States, including fabrics not formed from yarns, is such fabrics are classifiable under HTS heading 5602 or 5603 and are wholly formed in the United States, that are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from an eligible beneficiary CBTPA country.

An "eligible beneficiary CBTPA country" means a country which the President has designated as a CBTPA beneficiary country under section 213(b)(5)(B) of the CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)(5)(B)) and which has been the subject of a finding, published in the Federal Register, that the country has satisfied the requirements of section 213(b)(4)(A)(ii) of the CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)(4)(A)(ii)) and resulting in the enumeration of such country in U.S. note 1 to subchapter XX of chapter 98 of the HTS.

James C. Leonard III,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Designations under the Textile and Apparel Commercial Availability Provisions of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA)

April 19, 2004.

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

ACTION: Designation.

SUMMARY: The Committee has determined that certain fabrics, classified in subheadings 5513.11 and 5513.21 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), not of square construction, containing more than 70 warp ends and filling picks per square centimeter, of average yarn number exceeding 70 metric, used in the production of women's and girls' blouses, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA. The Committee hereby designates such apparel articles that are both cut and sewn or otherwise

assembled in an eligible country from these fabrics as eligible for quota-free and duty-free treatment under the textile and apparel commercial availability provisions of the CBTPA, and eligible under the HTSUS subheading 9820.11.27 to enter free of quotas and duties, provided all other fabrics are U.S. formed from yarns wholly formed in the U.S., including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under HTS heading 5602 or 5603 and are wholly formed in the United States.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 23, 2004.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Authority: Section 211 of the CBTPA, amending Section 213(b)(2)(A)(v)(II) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA); Presidential Proclamations 7351 of October 2, 2000; Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001.

BACKGROUND:

The commercial availability provision of the CBTPA provides for duty-free and quota-free treatment for apparel articles that are both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more beneficiary CBTPA countries from fabric or yarn that is not formed in the United States or a beneficiary CBTPA country if it has been determined that such yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner and certain procedural requirements have been met. In Presidential Proclamation 7351, the President proclaimed that this treatment would apply to such apparel articles from fabrics or yarns designated by the appropriate U.S. government authority in the Federal Register. In Executive Order 13191, the President authorized the Committee to determine whether particular yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA.

On December 18, 2003, the Committee received a request alleging that certain fabrics, classified in HTSUS subheadings 5513.11 and 5513.21, not of square construction, containing more than 70 warp ends and filling picks per square centimeter, of average yarn number exceeding 70 metric, used in the production of women's and girls' blouses, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA. It requested that apparel articles from such fabrics be eligible for preferential treatment under the CBTPA.

On December 24, 2003, the Committee requested public comment on the petition (68 FR 74555). On January 9, 2004, the Committee and the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) sought the advice of the Industry Sector Advisory Committee for Wholesaling and Retailing and the Industry Sector Advisory Committee for Textiles and Apparel. On January 9, 2004, the Committee and USTR offered to hold consultations with the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate (collectively, the Congressional Committees). On January 29, 2004, the U.S. International Trade Commission provided advice on the petition. Based on the information and advice received and its understanding of the industry, the Committee determined that the fabrics set forth in the request cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. On February 13, 2004, the Committee and USTR submitted a report to the Congressional Committees that set forth the action proposed, the reasons for such action, and advice obtained. A period of 60 calendar days since this report was submitted has expired, as required by the CBTPA.

The Committee hereby designates as eligible for preferential treatment under subheading 9820.11.27 of the HTSUS, women's and girls' blouses, that are both cut and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more eligible beneficiary CBTPA countries, from fabrics, classified in subheadings 5513.11 and 5513.21 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), not of square construction, containing more than 70 warp ends and filling picks per square centimeter, of average yarn number exceeding 70 metric, not formed in the United States, provided that all other fabrics are wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States, including fabrics not formed from yarns, is such fabrics are classifiable under HTS heading 5602 or 5603 and are wholly formed in the United States, that are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from an eligible beneficiary CBTPA country.

An "eligible beneficiary CBTPA country" means a country which the President has designated as a CBTPA beneficiary country under section 213(b)(5)(B) of the CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)(5)(B)) and which has been the subject of a finding, published in the Federal Register, that the country has satisfied the requirements of section 213(b)(4)(A)(ii) of the CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)(4)(A)(ii)) and resulting in the

enumeration of such country in U.S. note 1 to subchapter XX of chapter 98 of the HTS.

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

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Request for Public Comments on Revoking a Commercial Availability Designation under the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA)

April 21, 2004.

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

ACTION: Request for public comments concerning a request for a revocation of a CITA designation under the CBTPA regarding two patented fusible interlining fabrics, used in the construction of waistbands.

SUMMARY: On April 16, 2004 the Chairman of CITA received a petition from Hodgson Russ Attorneys, LLP, on behalf of Narroflex Inc. (Narroflex), alleging that certain ultra-fine elastomeric crochet fabrics, detailed below, can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner, and requesting that CITA revoke its previous designation regarding these fabrics. On April 22, 2003, following a determination that the subject fabrics could not be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA, CITA designated apparel from these fabrics as eligible for duty-free treatment under the CBTPA. CITA hereby solicits public comments on this request from Narroflex, in particular with regard to whether such fabrics can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities. Comments must be submitted by May 10, 2004 to the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, Room 3001, United States Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Stetson, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 213(b)(2)(A)(v)(II) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as

added by Section 211(a) of the CBTPA; Section 6 of Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001.

BACKGROUND:

The CBTPA provides for quota- and duty-free treatment for qualifying textile and apparel products. Such treatment is generally limited to products manufactured from yarns and fabrics formed in the United States or a beneficiary country. The CBTPA also provides for quota- and duty-free treatment for apparel articles that are both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from fabric or yarn that is not formed in the United States or a beneficiary country, if it has been determined that such fabric or yarn cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. In Executive Order No. 13191, the President delegated to CITA the authority to determine whether yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA and directed CITA to establish procedures to ensure appropriate public participation in any such determination. On March 6, 2001, CITA published procedures that it will follow in considering requests (66 FR 13502).

On April 22, 2003, following a determination that certain ultra-fine elastomeric crochet fabrics, detailed below, could not be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA, CITA designated apparel from these fabrics as eligible for duty-free treatment under the CBTPA (68 FR 19788). On April 16, 2004, the Chairman of CITA received a petition from Hodgson Russ Attorneys, LLP, on behalf of Narroflex, alleging that these fabrics can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner, and requesting that CITA revoke its previous designation regarding these fabrics. This petition can be viewed online at http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/Commercial_Availability.htm.

The two fabrics at issue are:

Fusible Interlining 1 -

An ultra-fine elastomeric crochet outer-fusible material with a fold line that is knitted into the fabric. A patent is pending for this fold-line fabric.

The fabric is a 45mm wide base substrate, crochet knitted in narrow width, synthetic fiber based (49% polyester/43% elastane/8% nylon with a weight of 4.4 oz., a 110/110 stretch and a dull yarn), stretch elastomeric