

Specifications: Certain Cotton/Nylon/Spandex Raschel Knit Open Work Crepe Fabric

HTSUS: 6005.22.00, 6005.24.00

Fabric type: Raschel knit, open work crepe fabric**Fiber content:** 59–63% cotton, 33–36% nylon, wrapped with 3–5% spandex**Yarn size:****Cotton:**

English: 57/2 to 63/2

Metric: 96/2 to 107/2

Nylon:

English: 38 to 42 denier/24 filament or 66 to 74 denier / 2

Metric: 38 to 62 denier/24 filament or 121.50 to 136.50 / 2

Spandex (wrapped around Nylon):

Spandex—English: 199.5 to 220.5 denier; Metric: 40.85 to 45.15;

Nylon—English: 66–74 denier/2; Metric: 121.50 to 136.5/2)

Machine gauge: 18**Number of bars:** 34**Weight:** 110 to 140 grams per sq. meter**Width:** 127 to 152 centimeters**Finishing Process:** Piece dyed or printed**Kimberly Glas,***Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

[FR Doc. E9–22672 Filed 9–18–09; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS**Determination under the Textile and Apparel Commercial Availability Provision of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA–DR Agreement)**

September 16, 2009.

AGENCY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.**ACTION:** Determination to add a product in unrestricted quantities to Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement.**DATES:** *Effective Date:* **September 21, 2009.****SUMMARY:** The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (“CITA”) has determined that certain cotton/polyester three thread circular knit fleece fabric, as specified below, is not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the CAFTA–DR countries. The product will be added to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement in unrestricted quantities.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maria Dybczak, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–3651.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON-LINE:** <http://web.ita.doc.gov/tacgi/CaftaReqTrack.nsf>, under “Approved Requests,” reference number:

127.2009.08.07.Fabric.ST&Rfor Intradeco.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Authority:** The CAFTA–DR Agreement; Section 203(o)(4) of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (“CAFTA–DR Implementation Act”), Pub. Law 109–53; the Statement of Administrative Action (SAA), accompanying the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act; and Presidential Proclamations 7987 (February 28, 2006) and 7996 (March 31, 2006); Modifications to Procedures for Considering Requests Under the Commercial Availability Provision of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, 73 FR 53200 (September 15, 2008).**BACKGROUND**

The CAFTA–DR Agreement provides a list in Annex 3.25 for fabrics, yarns, and fibers that the Parties to the CAFTA–DR Agreement have determined are not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the territory of any Party. The CAFTA–DR Agreement provides that this list may be modified pursuant to Article 3.25(4)–(5), when the President of the United States determines that a fabric, yarn, or fiber is not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the territory of any Party. See Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement; see also Section 203(o)(4)(C) of the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act.

The CAFTA–DR Implementation Act requires the President to establish procedures governing the submission of a request and providing opportunity for interested entities to submit comments and supporting evidence before a commercial availability determination is made. In Presidential Proclamations 7987 and 7996, the President delegated to CITA the authority under section 203(o)(4) of CAFTA–DR Implementation Act for modifying the Annex 3.25 list. On September 15, 2008, CITA published modified procedures it would follow in considering requests to modify the Annex 3.25 list of products determined to be not commercially available in the territory of any Party to CAFTA–DR (Modifications to Procedures for Considering Requests Under the Commercial Availability Provision of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, 73 FR 53200) (“procedures”).

On August 7, 2009, the Chairman of CITA received a request for a commercial availability determination (“Request”) from Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A. on behalf of Intradeco Apparel, Inc. (“Intradeco”), for certain cotton/polyester three thread circular

knit fleece fabrics. On August 11, 2009, in accordance with CITA’s procedures, CITA notified interested parties of the Request, which was posted on the dedicated website for CAFTA–DR Commercial Availability proceedings. In its notification, CITA advised that any Response with an Offer to Supply (“Response”) must be submitted by August 21, 2009, and any Rebuttal Comments to a Response (“Rebuttal”) must be submitted by August 27, 2009. On August 24, 2009, CITA announced that, in accordance with Section 6(a) and 7(a) of its procedures, it found sufficient good cause to extend the deadlines for Responses to August 24, 2009, and deadlines for Rebuttals to August 28, 2009. On August 24, 2009, Hylos y Telas s.a. (“HyT”) submitted a Response to the Request. On August 28, 2009, Interdeco submitted a Rebuttal to the Response.

In its Request, Intradeco stated that it had conducted due diligence to source the fabric from CAFTA–DR suppliers, including HyT. Intradeco reported that it had engaged in a dialogue with HyT over the course of several weeks, during which time it requested information about HyT’s capacity and asked that HyT confirm its interest in supplying the subject fabric. The requestor asserted that HyT did not provide detailed information about its production capability and capacity to produce the subject fabric. As a result, Intradeco claimed that HyT did not demonstrate that it is able supply the fabric in question in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

In the Response submitted by HyT, the supplier stated that it had been in contact with Intradeco in the course of its due diligence efforts, and had offered to supply the subject fabric. In the Confidential version of its Response, HyT provided information regarding its production capabilities, including quantities of past production of other fabrics, and an inventory of its manufacturing equipment. HyT also stated that it had developed a new fabric in response to Intradeco’s inquiries, and had sent a sample to Intradeco on August 8, 2009. With the sample, HyT also sent a lab report reflecting the specifications of the fabric, known as a “specification sheet.” HyT asserted that it had provided Intradeco with the same specification sheet it included as an attachment in the Confidential version of its Response. In its Response, HyT stated that, while there were some variations in the specifications of the fabric it had developed and the required specifications of the subject fabric, “such differences (were) not an obstacle

to fulfill the requirements of the final product.”

Section 203(o)(4)(C) of the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act provides that after receiving a Request, CITA will make a determination as to whether the subject product is available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the CAFTA–DR countries. In the instant case, the information on the record indicates that the fabric offered by HyT does not meet the specifications outlined in Intradeco’s Request, differing in fiber content, appearance, shrinkage tolerance, and yarn construction. Further, HyT has not established why its proposed fabric, with its different specifications, is substitutable for the subject product. CITA therefore finds that HyT has not demonstrated its ability to supply the specified fabric or one substitutable. Therefore, in accordance with section 203(o) of the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act and CITA’s procedures, as no interested entity has substantiated its ability to supply the subject product in commercial quantities in a timely manner, CITA has determined to add the specified fabric to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement.

The subject product has been added to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement in unrestricted quantities. A revised list has been posted on the dedicated Website for CAFTA–DR Commercial Availability proceedings.

Specifications: Certain Cotton/Polyester Three Thread Circular Knit Fleece Fabric (Fabric #1)

HTSUS: 6001.21

Fiber Content: 77–83% cotton/17–23% polyester
Yarn Size:

1.Face Yarn: 100% combed cotton ring spun, 49/1 to 54/1 metric (29/1 to 32/1 English) in each of the following configurations:

- a. 100% bleached or dyed cotton
- b. 95% undyed cotton/5% dyed cotton
- c. 90% undyed cotton/10% dyed cotton
- d. 80% undyed cotton/20% dyed cotton
- e. 70% undyed cotton/30% dyed cotton
- f. 60% undyed cotton/40% dyed cotton
- g. 50% undyed cotton/50% dyed cotton
- h. 40% undyed cotton/60% dyed cotton
- i. 30% undyed cotton/70% dyed cotton
- j. 25% undyed cotton/75% dyed cotton
- k. 20% undyed cotton/80% dyed cotton

The percentages above may vary by up to 2 percentage points.

2. Tie Yarn: 176 to 184/48 filament metric filament polyester (49 to 51/48 filament denier)

3. Fleece Yarn: 67–73% carded cotton, 26/1 to 30/1 metric ring spun/27–33% 3600–4500 metric polyester staple (15.5/1 to 18/1 ring spun/2.0 to 2.5 denier polyester staple)

Machine Gauge: 21

Weight: 232–271 grams per square meter (6.85 to 8.0 ounces per square yard)

Width: Not less than 152 centimeters cuttable (60 inches)

Finish: Napped on technical back; bleached and/or dyed; and of yarns of different colors

Performance Criteria: Not more than 5% vertical and horizontal shrinkage; not more than 4% vertical torque

Kimberly Glas,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Limitations of Duty and Quota-Free Imports of Apparel Articles Assembled in Beneficiary ATPDEA Countries from Regional Country Fabric

September 15, 2009.

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

ACTION: Publishing the New 12-Month Cap on Duty and Quota Free Benefits.

DATES: *Effective Date:* October 1, 2009.

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 3103 of the Trade Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107–210; Title VII of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (TRHCA 2006), P.L. 109–432; H.R. 1830, 110th Cong. (2007) (H.R. 1830); Presidential Proclamation 7616 of October 31, 2002 (67 FR 67283, November 5, 2002).

Section 3103 of the Trade Act of 2002 amended the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA) to provide for duty and quota-free treatment for certain textile and apparel articles imported from designated Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA) beneficiary countries. Section 204(b)(3)(B)(iii) of the ATPA, as amended, provides duty- and quota-free treatment for certain apparel articles assembled in ATPDEA beneficiary countries from regional fabric and components. More specifically, this provision applies to apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 and 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) and are formed in one or more ATPDEA

beneficiary countries). Such apparel articles may also contain certain other eligible fabrics, fabric components, or components knit-to-shape.

The TRHCA of 2006 extended the expiration of the ATPA to June 30, 2007. See section 7002(a) of the TRHCA 2006. H.R. 1830 further extended the expiration of the ATPA to February 29, 2008. H.R. 5264 further extended the expiration of the ATPA to December 31, 2008. H.R. 7222, 110th Cong. (2008), further extended the expiration of the ATPA to December 31, 2009. See Pub. L. No. 110–436.

For the period beginning on October 1, 2009 and extending through December 31, 2009, preferential tariff treatment is limited under the regional fabric provision to imports of qualifying apparel articles in an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all apparel articles imported into the United States in the preceding 12-month period for which data are available. For the purpose of this notice, the 12-month period for which data are available is the 12-month period that ended July 31, 2009. In Presidential Proclamation 7616 (published in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 2002, 67 FR 67283), the President directed CITA to publish in the **Federal Register** the aggregate quantity of imports allowed during each period.

For the period beginning on October 1, 2009 and extending through December 31, 2009, the aggregate quantity of imports eligible for preferential treatment under the regional fabric provision is 1,163,423,598 square meters equivalent. Apparel articles entered in excess of this quantity will be subject to otherwise applicable tariffs.

This quantity is calculated using the aggregate square meter equivalents of all apparel articles imported into the United States, derived from the set of Harmonized System lines listed in the Annex to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC), and the conversion factors for units of measure into square meter equivalents used by the United States in implementing the ATC.

Kimberly Glas,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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