

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Establishment of an Export Visa Arrangement for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Fiji

May 11, 1999.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the
Commissioner of Customs establishing
export visa requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross
Arnold, International Trade Specialist,
Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S.
Department of Commerce, (202) 482-
4212.

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.

Pursuant to exchange of notes dated
March 3, 1999 and April 26, 1999, the
Governments of the United States and
the Republic of the Fiji Islands agreed
to establish an Export Visa Arrangement
for cotton and man-made fiber textile
products subject to import control. That
is, products in merged-Categories 338/
339/638/639 will be visaed as either
part-Categories 338-S/339-S/638-S/639-
S or part-Categories 338-O/339-O/638-
O/639-O, produced or manufactured in
Fiji and exported from Fiji on and after
June 1, 1999. Products exported during
the period June 1, 1999 through June 30,
1999 shall not be denied entry for lack
of a visa. All products exported on and
after July 1, 1999 must be accompanied
by an appropriate export visa.

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 63 FR 71096,
published on December 23, 1998).

Interested persons are advised to take
all necessary steps to ensure that textile
products that are entered into the
United States for consumption, or
withdrawn from warehouse for
consumption, will meet the visa
requirements set forth in the letter

published below to the Commissioner of
Customs.

Troy H. Cribb,
*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation
of Textile Agreements.*

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

May 11, 1999.

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

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to section
204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as
amended (7 U.S.C. 1854) and Executive
Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended;
the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles
and Clothing (ATC) and the Export Visa
Arrangement, effected by exchange of notes
dated March 3, 1999 and April 26, 1999
between the Governments of the United
States and the Republic of the Fiji Islands,
you are directed to prohibit, effective on June
1, 1999, entry into the United States for
consumption and withdrawal from
warehouse for consumption of cotton and
man-made fiber textile products in part-
Categories 338-S/339-S/638-S/639-S and
part-Categories 338-O/339-O/638-O/639-O,
produced or manufactured in Fiji and
exported from Fiji on and after June 1, 1999
for which the Government of the Republic of
the Fiji Islands has not issued an appropriate
export visa fully described below. Should
whole categories, merged categories or part
categories become subject to import quota,
the whole, merged or part category(s)
automatically shall be included in the
coverage of this arrangement. Merchandise in
the whole, merged or part category(s)
exported on or after the date the whole,
merged or part category(s) is added to the
agreement or becomes subject to import
quotas shall require a visa. Products exported
during the period June 1, 1999 through June
30, 1999 shall not be denied entry for lack
of an export visa. All products exported on
and after July 1, 1999 must be accompanied
by an appropriate export visa.

A visa must accompany each commercial
shipment of the aforementioned textile
products. A circular stamped marking in blue
ink will appear on the front of the original
commercial invoice or successor document.
The original visa shall not be stamped on
duplicate copies of the invoice. The original
invoice with the original visa stamp will be
required for the shipment to enter into the
United States. Duplicates of the invoice and/
or visa may not be used for this purpose.

Each visa stamp shall include the
following information:

1. The visa number. The visa number shall
be in the standard nine digit letter format,
beginning with one numeric digit for the last
digit of the year of export, followed by the
two character alpha country code specified
by the International Organization for
Standardization (ISO) (the code for the Fiji is
"FJ"), and a six digit numerical serial number
identifying the shipment; e.g., 9FJ123456.

2. The date of issuance. The date of
issuance shall be the day, month and year on
which the visa was issued.

3. The original signature of the issuing
official authorized by the Fiji Islands

Customs Service for the Government of the
Republic of the Fiji Islands.

4. The correct category(s), merged
category(s), part category(s), quantity(s) and
unit(s) of quantity of the shipment as set
forth in the U.S. Department of Commerce
Correlation and in the Harmonized Tariff
Schedule of the United States shall be
reported in the spaces provided within the
visa stamp (e.g., "Cat. 338-S/339-S/638-S/
639-S—510 DOZ").

Quantities must be stated in whole
numbers. Decimals or fractions will not be
accepted. Merged category quota
merchandise may be accompanied by either
the appropriate merged category visa or the
correct category visa corresponding to the
actual shipment. For example, quota
Category 338-O/339-O/638-O/639-O may be
visaed as Category 338-O/339-O/638-O/
639-O or if the shipment consists solely of
Category 338-O merchandise, the shipment
may be visaed as "Category 338-O" but not
as "Category 339-O." If, however, a merged
quota category such as Category 338/339/
638/639 has a quota sublimit on Category
338-S/339-S/638-S/639-S, then there must
be a "Category 338-S/339-S/638-S/639-S"
visa for the shipment if it includes Category
338-S/339-S/638-S/639-S merchandise.

U.S. Customs shall not permit entry if the
shipment does not have a visa, or if the visa
number, date of issuance, signature, category,
quantity or units of quantity are missing,
incorrect or illegible, or have been crossed
out or altered in any way. If the quantity
indicated on the visa is less than that of the
shipment, entry shall not be permitted. If the
quantity indicated on the visa is more than
that of the shipment, entry shall be permitted
and only the amount entered shall be charged
to any applicable quota.

The complete name and address of a
company actually involved in the
manufacturing process of the textile product
covered by the visa shall be provided on the
textile visa document.

If the visa is not acceptable then a new
correct visa or a visa waiver must be
presented to the U.S. Customs Service before
any portion of the shipment will be released.
A visa waiver may be issued by the U.S.
Department of Commerce at the request of
the country office in Washington, DC, for the
Government of the Republic of the Fiji
Islands. The waiver, if used, only waives the
requirement to present a visa with the
shipment. It does not waive the quota
requirements. Visa waivers will only be
issued for classification purposes or for one-
time special purpose shipments that are not
part of an ongoing commercial enterprise.

If the visaed invoice is deficient, the U.S.
Customs Service will not return the original
document after entry, but will provide a
certified copy of that visaed invoice for use
in obtaining a new correct original visaed
invoice, or a visa waiver.

If import quotas are in force, U.S. Customs
Service shall charge only the actual quantity
in the shipment to the correct category limit.
If a shipment from Fiji has been allowed
entry into the commerce of the United States
with either an incorrect visa or no visa, and
redelivery is requested but cannot be made,
the shipment will be charged to the correct

category limit whether or not a replacement visa or waiver is provided.

Merchandise imported for the personal use of the importer and not for resale, regardless of value, and properly marked commercial sample shipments valued at U.S. \$800 or less

do not require an export visa for entry and shall not be charged to existing quota levels.

A facsimile of the visa stamp is enclosed. 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). This letter will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Sincerely,
Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F



Export Visa Stamp for the Republic of Fiji

[FR Doc. 99-12509 Filed 5-17-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-DR-C

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of a Limit and a Sublimit for Certain Cotton Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Singapore

May 11, 1999.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs reducing a limit and a sublimit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 18, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Heinzen, 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.ustras.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

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 limit for Categories 338/339 and the current sublimit for Category 339 are being reduced for carryforward used in 1998.

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 63 FR 71096, published on December 23, 1998). Also see 63 FR 69056, published on December 15, 1998.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

May 11, 1999.

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 December 8, 1998, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or

manufactured in Singapore and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1999 and extends through December 31, 1999.

Effective on May 18, 1999, you are directed to reduce the limit and the sublimit for the following categories, as provided for under the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹
338/339	1,405,077 dozen of which not more than 868,897 dozen shall be in Category 338 and not more than 928,061 dozen shall be in Category 339.

¹ The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1998.

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,
Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 99-12508 Filed 5-17-99; 8:45 am]

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