



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

February 2, 2004

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones, Program Manager for
Commercial Availability Reviews
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SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Apparel of Combed Compact Yarns
(Investigation No. 332-458-001)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the “commercial availability” provisions of the AGOA, CBTPA, and ATPDEA on apparel of combed compact yarns of wool or fine animal hair.¹ The yarns are classified in HTS subheadings 5107.10, 5107.20, and 5108.20. The petition states that the “yarns are an emerging, technologically advanced yarn created by a reduction of the air space between fibers during the spinning process” and that “the appearance, strength and durability of combed compact yarn makes it a much more desirable and effective yarn for the production of fine apparel fabric” (e.g., worsted wool fabric).

The petition was filed by the Warren Corporation, Stafford Springs, CT, and received by the Committee on the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on January 14, 2004. The petition alleges that the yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-458, *Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2004): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries*, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and

¹ The AGOA is the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the CBTPA is the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, and the ATPDEA is the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act.

quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified yarns, or from U.S.-formed fabrics containing such yarns, regardless of the source of the yarns, should CITA determine that the yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by February 24, 2004, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by February 13, 2004. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which will be published in the *Federal Register* in early February 2004 and posted on its website at <http://www.usitc.gov/invfrn.htm#332>.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Cynthia Trainor (202-205-3354; trainor@usitc.gov). Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Manager (see above) and from its website at www.usitc.gov/332s/shortsup/shortsupintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/Commercial_Availability.htm.