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## UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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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 Reviews on Apparel Containing Certain Fusible Interlining Fabrics in Wasitbands, Investigation No. 332-458-002; and on Apparel Containing Certain Lycra Crochet Material in Waistbands, Investigation No. 332-458-003

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated two separate reviews to provide advice in connection with a petition filed by Levi Strauss & Co. of San Francisco, CA, and received by the Committee on the Implementation for Textile Agreements (CITA) on January 20, 2004.

The petition covers 5 different patented fusible interlining fabrics used in the construction of waistbands. The Commission will provide advice under the "commercial availability" provisions of the AGOA, CBTPA, and ATPDEA on apparel, primarily trousers and skirts, containing three patented fusible interlining fabrics used in the construction of waistbands under Investigation No. 332-458-002. The Commission will also provide advice in connection with that part of the petition which was filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the AGOA and the ATPDEA on apparel, again primarily trousers and skirts, containing two patented fusible interlining fabrics made of a certain ultra-fine Lycra crochet material under Investigation No. 332-458-003.<sup>1</sup> The fusible interlinings in both investigations are classified in HTS subheading 5903.90.25. The petition describes the 3 fusible materials covered by Investigation No. 332-458-002 as "Fusible A - a knitted outer-fusible material"; "Fusible B - a knitted inner and outer fusible material with adhesive coating"; and "Fusible C - a knitted fusible material used to shape countour

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

waistbands.”<sup>2</sup> The petition describes the two patented fusible interlining fabrics covered by Investigation No. 332-458-003 as “Fusible Interlining 1 - an ultra-fine Lycra crochet outer-fusible material with a fold like that is knitted into the fabric”; and “Fusible Interlining 2 - a fine Lycra crochet inner-fusible material with an adhesive coating that is applied after going through a finishing process to remove all shrinkage from the product.”<sup>3</sup>

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 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 March 2, 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 20, 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/Commercial_Availability.htm).

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<sup>2</sup> For a more detailed description of these products, see OTEXA’s website for their FR notice covering these products at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/fr2004/comav15.htm>.

<sup>3</sup> For a more detailed description of these products, see OTEXA’s FR notice covering these products at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/fr2004/comav14.htm>.