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Ecodesign in the Textile Sector

Unit 03: Regulatory requirements, rules on labelling and composition of textile products.

Simona Bellan simona.bellan@centrocot.it
Paolo Ghezzo paolo.ghezzo@centrocot.it

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With this unit, students will be able:

- to know main requirements to export textile products;
- to know the main requirements for the correct labelling of composition of textile products.
- to know the main rules for the attribution of the Made In
- to Know the main rules for the attribution of preferential origin

3.1 Introduction

The right composition labelling is a compulsory requirement in all the countries of the world.

In Europe at the moment it is the only law that regulates the textile trade market.

For the marketing of products on the Community market it is essential to take into account three main aspects:

- the labelling of textile goods
- the rules on safety and correct maintenance of the product,
- the "made in"

3.2 Labelling of textile goods

Correct composition labelling is a mandatory requirement in all countries of the world, and in Europe at the moment it is the only law that regulates the textile trade market.

The labelling of textile products is governed by Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council - a regulation that came into force in November 2011 and has been applied in the Member States since 8 May 2012 - repealing Directives 73/44/EEC, 96/73/EC. The Regulation contains harmonised provisions with regard to certain aspects of textile product labelling, in particular the use of textile fibre names and the indication of the fibre composition of textile products.

The following are to be considered as textile products (Article 2(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011):

- products containing at least 80 % by weight of textile fibres
- furniture, umbrella and sunshade coverings containing at least 80 % by weight of textile components
- the textile components of (provided such textile components constitute at least 80 % by weight of such upper layers or coverings):
 - the upper layer of multi-layer floor coverings
 - mattress coverings;
 - coverings of camping goods;
- textiles incorporated in other products and forming an integral part thereof, where their composition is specified.

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

- “textile product” (Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011) means any raw, semi-worked, worked, semi-manufactured, manufactured, semi-made-up or



made-up product which is exclusively composed of textile fibres, regardless of the mixing or assembly process employed;

- ‘textile fibre’ means either of the following:
 - a unit of matter characterised by its flexibility, fineness and high ratio of length to maximum transverse dimension, which render it suitable for textile applications;
 - a flexible strip or tube, of which the apparent width does not exceed 5 mm, including strips cut from wider strips or films, produced from the substances used for the manufacture of the fibres listed in Table 2 of Annex I and suitable for textile applications;
- “apparent width” means the width of the strip or tube when folded, flattened, compressed or twisted, or the average width where the width is not uniform;
- “textile component” means a part of a textile product with an identifiable fibre content;
- “extraneous fibres” means fibres other than those stated on the label or marking;
- “lining” means a separate component used in making up garments and other products, consisting of a single layer or multiple layers of textile material held in place along one or more of the edges;
- “labelling” means affixing the required information to the textile product by way of attaching a label;
- “marking” means indicating the required information directly on the textile product by way of sewing, embroidering, printing, embossing or any other technology of application;
- “inclusive labelling” means the use of a single label for several textile products or components;
- “disposable product” means a textile product designed to be used only once or for a limited time, and the normal use of which is not intended for subsequent use for the same or a similar purpose;
- “agreed allowance” means the value of moisture regain to be used in the calculation of the percentage of fibre components on a clean, dry mass basis, with adjustment by conventional factors.

3.2.1 Textile fibre names

The composition of a textile product must be indicated on the label (and on the transport/accompanying documents) first of all on the fibre composition, which must be indicated using the fibre names listed in the IIA. I of Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 (see pp. 36-42), indicating them in full and, in the case of textile products composed of several fibres, in descending order of weight.



Only the textile fibre names listed in the table below may be used. Trade names and abbreviated codes are not allowed.

Use of the names listed in the table is reserved for textile fibres the nature of which corresponds to the description given opposite. The names listed may not be used for other fibres, either alone or as a root or as an adjective. The term 'silk' shall not be used to indicate the shape or particular presentation in continuous yarn of textile fibres.

NAME	FIBRE DESCRIPTION
Wool	Fibre from sheep's or lambs' fleeces (ovis aries) or a mixture of fibres from sheep's or lambs' fleeces and the hairs of animals listed in number 2
Alpaca, llama, camel, cashmere, mohair, angora, vicuna, yak, guanaco, cashgora, beaver, otter, followed or not by the word 'wool' or 'hair'	Hair of the following animals: alpaca, llama, camel, kashmir goat, angora goat, angora rabbit, vicuna, yak, guanaco, cashgora goat, beaver, otter
Animal or horsehair, with or without an indication of the kind of animal (e.g. cattle hair, common goat hair, horsehair)	Hair of the various animals not mentioned under number 1 or 2
Silk	Fibre obtained exclusively from silk-secreting insects
Cotton	Fibre obtained from the bolls of the cotton plant (gossypium)
Kapok	Fibre obtained from the inside of the kapok fruit (ceiba pentandra)
Flax (or linen)	Fibre obtained from the bast of the flax plant (linum usitatissimum)
True hemp	Fibre obtained from the bast of hemp (cannabis sativa)
Jute	Fibre obtained from the bast of corchorus olitorius and corchorus capsularis. For the purposes of this regulation, bast fibres obtained from the following species shall be treated in the same way as jute: hibiscus cannabinus, hibiscus sabdariffa, abutilon avicennae, urena lobata, urena sinuata
Abaca (Manila hemp)	Fibre obtained from the sheathing leaf of musa textilis
Alfa	Fibre obtained from the leaves of stipa tenacissima
Coir (coconut)	Fibre obtained from the fruit of cocos nucifera
Broom	Fibre obtained from the bast of cytiscus scoparius and/or spartium junceum
Ramie	Fibre obtained from the bast of boehmeria nivea and boehmeria tenacissima
Sisal	Fibre obtained from the leaves of agave sisalana



NAME	FIBRE DESCRIPTION
Sunn	Fibre from the bast of crotalaria juncea
Henequen	Fibre from the bast of agave fourcroydes
Maguey	Fibre from the bast of agave cantala
Acetate	Cellulose acetate fibre wherein less than 92 % but at least 74 % of the hydroxyl groups are acetylated
Alginate	Fibre obtained from metallic salts of alginic acid
Cupro	Regenerated cellulose fibre obtained by the cuprammonium process
Modal	A regenerated cellulose fibre obtained by a modified viscose process having a high breaking force and high wet modulus.
Protein	Fibre obtained from natural protein substances regenerated and stabilised through the action of chemical agents
Triacetate	Cellulose acetate fibre wherein at least 92 % of the hydroxyl groups are acetylated
Viscose	Regenerated cellulose fibre obtained by the viscose process for filament and discontinuous fibre
Acrylic	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules comprising at least 85 % (by mass) in the chain of the acrylonitrilic pattern
Chlorofibre	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules having in their chain more than 50 % by mass of chlorinated vinyl or chlorinated vinylidene monomeric units
Fluorofibre	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules made from fluorocarbon aliphatic monomers
Modacrylic	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules having in the chain more than 50 % and less than 85 % (by mass) of the acrylonitrilic pattern
Polyamide or nylon	Fibre formed from synthetic linear macromolecules having in the chain recurring amide linkages of which at least 85 % are joined to aliphatic or cycloaliphatic units
Aramid	Fibre formed from synthetic linear macromolecules made up of aromatic groups joined by amide or imide linkages, of which at least 85 % are joined directly to two aromatic rings and with the number of imide linkages, if present, not exceeding the number of amide linkages
Polyimide	Fibre formed from synthetic linear macromolecules having in the chain recurring imide units
Lyocell	A regenerated cellulose fibre obtained by dissolution, and an organic solvent (mixture of organic chemicals and water) spinning process, without formation of derivatives



NAME	FIBRE DESCRIPTION
Poly lactide	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules having in the chain at least 85 % (by mass) of lactic acid ester units derived from naturally occurring sugars, and which has a melting temperature of at least 135 °c
Polyester	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules comprising at least 85 % (by mass) in the chain of an ester of a diol and terephthalic acid
Polyethylene	Fibre formed of un-substituted aliphatic saturated hydrocarbon linear macromolecules
Polypropylene	Fibre formed of an aliphatic saturated hydrocarbon linear macromolecule where one carbon atom in two carries a methyl side chain in an isotactic disposition and without further substitution
Polycarbamide	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules having in the chain the recurring ureylene (nh-co-nh) functional group
Polyurethane	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules composed of chains with the recurring urethane functional group
Vinylal	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules whose chain is constituted by poly(vinyl alcohol) with differing levels of acetalisation
Trivinyll	Fibre formed of acrylonitrile terpolymer, a chlorinated vinyl monomer and a third vinyl monomer, none of which represents as much as 50 % of the total mass
Elastodiene	Elastofibre composed of natural or synthetic polyisoprene, or composed of one or more dienes polymerised with or without one or more vinyl monomers, and which, when stretched to three times its original length and released, recovers rapidly and substantially to its initial length
Elastane	Elastofibre composed of at least 85 % (by mass) of a segmented polyurethane, and which, when stretched to three times its original length and released, recovers rapidly and substantially to its initial length
Glass fibre	Fibre made of glass
Elastomultiester	Fibre formed by interaction of two or more chemically distinct linear macromolecules in two or more distinct phases (of which none exceeds 85 % by mass) which contains ester groups as the dominant functional unit (at least 85 %) and which, after suitable treatment when stretched to one and half times its original length and released, recovers rapidly and substantially to its initial length
Elastolefin	Fibre composed of at least 95 % (by mass) of macromolecules partially cross-linked, made up from ethylene and at least one other olefin and which, when stretched to one and a half times its original length and released, recovers rapidly and substantially to its initial length
Melamine	Fibre formed of at least 85 % by mass of cross-linked macromolecules made up of melamine derivatives



NAME	FIBRE DESCRIPTION
Name corresponding to the material of which the fibres are composed, e.g. metal (metallic, metallised), asbestos, paper, followed or not by the word 'yarn' or 'fibre'	Fibres obtained from miscellaneous or new materials not listed above
Polypropylene/polyamide bicomponent	A bicomponent fibre composed of between 10 % and 25 % by mass of polyamide fibrils embedded in polypropylene matrix

3.2.2 Textile products for which labelling is not mandatory

The Regulation lists a number of textile products which producers are not under an obligation to declare their composition:

1. Sleeve-supporting armbands;
2. Watch straps of textile materials;
3. Labels and badges;
4. Stuffed pan-holders of textile materials;
5. Coffee cosy covers;
6. Tea cosy covers;
7. Sleeve protectors;
8. Muffs other than in pile fabric;
9. Artificial flowers;
10. Pin cushions;
11. Painted canvas;
12. Textile products for base and underlying fabrics and stiffenings;
13. Old made-up textile products, where explicitly stated to be such;
14. Gaiters;
15. Packaging, not new and sold as such;
16. Fancy goods and saddlery, of textile materials;
17. Travel goods of textile materials;
18. Hand-embroidered tapestries, finished or unfinished, and materials for their production, including embroidery yarns, sold separately from the canvas and specially presented for use in such tapestries;
19. Slide fasteners;
20. Buttons and buckles covered with textile materials;
21. Book covers of textile materials;
22. Toys;
23. Textile parts of footwear;
24. Table mats having several components and a surface area of not more than 500 cm²;
25. Oven gloves and cloths;
26. Egg cosy covers;
27. Make-up cases;



28. Tobacco pouches of textile fabric;
29. Spectacle, cigarette and cigar, lighter and comb cases of textile fabric;
30. Covers for mobile telephones and portable media players with a surface of not more than 160 cm²;
31. Protective requisites for sports with the exception of gloves;
32. Toilet cases;
33. Shoe-cleaning cases;
34. Funeral products;
35. Disposable products, with the exception of wadding;
36. Textile products subject to the rules of the European Pharmacopoeia and covered by a reference to those rules, non-disposable bandages for medical and orthopaedic use and orthopaedic textile products in general;
37. Textile products including cordage, ropes and string, subject to item 12 of Annex VI, normally intended:
 - (a) For use as equipment components in the manufacture and processing of goods;
 - (b) For incorporation in machines, installations (e.g. For heating, air conditioning or lighting), domestic and other appliances, vehicles and other means of transport, or for their operation, maintenance or equipment, other than tarpaulin covers and textile motor vehicle accessories sold separately from the vehicle;
38. Textile products for protection and safety purposes such as safety belts, parachutes, life-jackets, emergency chutes, fire-fighting devices, bulletproof waistcoats and special protective garments (e.g. protection against fire, chemical substances or other safety hazards) ;
39. Air-supported structures (e.g. sports halls, exhibition stands or storage facilities), provided that details of the performances and technical specifications of these products are supplied;
40. Sails;
41. Animal clothing;
42. Flags and banners.

3.2.3 Textile products for which inclusive labelling is sufficient

In addition, the Regulation lists a series of products where it is sufficient to apply a global label, or a single label for more than one textile product or component (for example on packaging):

1. Floorcloths
2. Cleaning cloths



3. Edgings and trimmings
4. Passementerie
5. Belts
6. Braces
7. Suspenders and garters
8. Shoe and boot laces
9. Ribbons
10. Elastic
11. New packaging sold as such
12. Packing string and agricultural twine; string, cordage and ropes other than those falling within item 37 of Annex V (*)
13. Table mats
14. Handkerchiefs
15. Bun nets and hair nets
16. Ties and bow ties for children
17. Bibs, washgloves and face flannels
18. Sewing, mending and embroidery yarns presented for retail sale in small quantities with a net weight of 1 gram or less
19. Tape for curtains and blinds and shutters

EXAMPLE OF LABELLING

Correct	Wrong	Reason
Polyester 50% - Cotton 30% - Acrylic 20%	Cotton 30% - Polyester 50% - Acrylic 20%	not in descending order
Cotton 50% Polyester 50%	CO 50% - PL 50%	uncorrected abbreviations
Cotton 90% - Elastan 10%	Makò 90% - Lycra 10%	use of trade names
Polyester 100% (shiny "silk" effect yarn)	Silky Polyester 100%	use of an adjective evoking another fibre than that declared

3.2.3 Tolerances

For the purposes of establishing the fibre composition of textile products, the tolerances below shall apply:



- 2 % of the total weight of the textile product, provided this quantity is justified as being technically unavoidable in good manufacturing practice and is not added as a matter of routine; or
- 5 % of the total weight in the case of textile products which have undergone a carding process provided this quantity is justified as being technically unavoidable in good manufacturing practice and is not added as a matter of routine.
- A manufacturing tolerance of 3 % shall be permitted between the stated fibre composition declared and the percentages obtained from analysis carried out in accordance with test method of the Regulation.

Example of a declarable blend Cotton 50% Polyester50%

Analyses can be found in the laboratory:

- Cotton from 47% to 53%
- Polyester from 53% to 47%

3.3 Care labelling

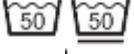
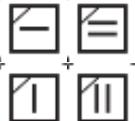
Care labelling is not compulsory in UE, but it is strongly advisable to provide the consumer with information on the proper maintenance of the garment in order to prevent unpleasant complaints.

To give information, both the use of phrases and the use of symbols are accepted, which identify the ideal conditions for the treatment of the garment in the 5 categories: the washing, bleaching (if any), drying, the ironing instructions to be used, and finally, the type of process for professional washing.

In according to ISO 3758 phrases or symbols recognized in UE are described below

WASHING	BLEACHING	DRYING	IRONING	PROFESSIONAL CARE
 Do not wash	 Do not bleach	 Do not tumble dry	 Do not iron	 Do not dry clean



WASHING	BLEACHING	DRYING	IRONING	PROFESSIONAL CARE
 Washing, general	 any bleaching agents allowed	 Tumble dry possible, low temperature; exhaust temperature max: 60°C	 Iron at maximum sole-plate temperature of 110°C	 Professional dry cleaning in tetrachloroethene and all solvents listed for the symbol F; normal process or mild process in case of a bar under the symbol
 Hand wash	 Only oxygen/non-chlorine bleach allowed	 Tumble dry possible, normal temperature; exhaust temperature max: 80°C	 Iron at maximum sole-plate temperature of 150°C	 Professional dry cleaning in hydrocarbons, normal or mild process
 Maximum washing temperature 30°C, one bar under the symbol means that the treatment should be milder (e.g. reduced agitation); double bar means "very mild" (much reduced agitation)		 Flat drying	 Iron at maximum sole-plate temperature of 200°C	 Professional wet cleaning : normal, mild and very mild
 Maximum washing temperature 40°C; mild treatment (one bar); very mild (double bar)		 Line drying		 Do not professional wet cleaning
 Maximum washing temperature 50°C; mild treatment (one bar); very mild (double bar)		 Drip flap and drip line drying		
 Maximum washing temperature 60°C; mild treatment (one bar); very mild (double bar)		 Drying in the shade, applicable to previous symbols (i.e. drip flat drying in the shade)		
 Maximum washing temperature 70°C, normal process				
 Maximum washing temperature 95°C, normal process				

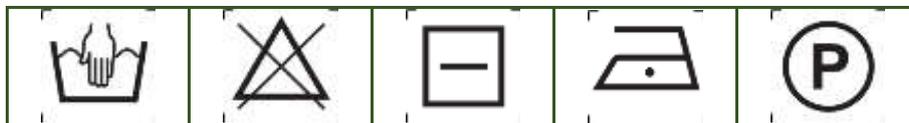
Examples of phrases are the following:

- Remove....before washing



- Wash separately
- Wash with like colours
- Wash inside out
- Do not wring or twist
- Damp wipe only
- Do not add fabric conditioner
- Remove promptly
- Iron reverse side only
- Do not iron decoration
- Use press-cloth

Example of a label that can be found on a 100% wool garment:



The composition and maintenance labelling already provides information on the sustainability aspects of the garment. As we will see in detail in Unit 06, the maintenance phase of the garment is one of the most impactful phases in the life cycle of a product. Garments requiring lower washing temperatures, which do not require ironing and special washing with chemical agents (dry), have a greater respect for the environment.

The fibres that best meet these characteristics can be identified in synthetic fibres or technical fibres with stain-resistant, easy-iron and similar treatments.

3.3.1 Note on the symbols used

The use of graphic symbols is not mandatory; their function is to simplify maintenance instructions by means of graphic communication.

It should therefore be specified that the symbols are registered as international trade marks and are the property of Ginetex/Cofreet, which allows use with payment of a royalty.

In Italy, the association Sistema Moda Italia (SMI), of Confindustria, is the exclusive licensee for the symbols, which includes the royalties to associated companies, while, for companies not associated with SMI, the payment of a royalty is envisaged in favour of SMI, proportionate to the company's turnover.

For more information, please visit the page on their website: <http://www.sistemamodaitalia.com/it/home-ginetex/item/8733-royalties>

3.4 The “trademark” and the “Made in ...”

A “trademark” is a registered graphic representation that allows:



- to the 'producer' to distinguish its products or services from those of its competitors
- to the “consumer” to make a commercial choice because through the brand he links certain quality characteristics to the product.

The Italian Civil Code establishes that the trademark must be suitable to distinguish goods and services.

The trademark therefore has essentially two functions:

- “guarantee function” - enables the consumer to identify precise indications concerning the quality of the product and the reliability of the undertaking which "produced" it
- “evocative function” - it evokes the consumer's feelings of a “status symbol” of the product and therefore of the lifestyle it carries.

The “Made in ...” is comparable to a trademark that can reinforce the values of the "brand" in the case in which the country of production has a high qualitative tradition.

The correct use of the “Made in ...” should allow:

- for the “consumer” to identify the geographical location of the organisation where the product was created (and thus to distinguish between nationally manufactured goods and imported goods)
- for the “manufacturer” to provide useful information to reconnect the product to production (e.g. Italian) and related quality standards (aesthetics, design, technology).

3.4.1 Made in ...

Currently, there is no legislation at Community level on the obligation to indicate origin on products imported from third countries.

It is not compulsory to indicate the exact origin of the products, so it is possible to import the goods in the following ways:

- by indicating the exact “Made in ...”;
- without specifying the exact “Made in ...” (under the condition of not indicating a false one)

If you do not indicate the exact "Made in" it is possible to use only the legally registered logo of the importing company under the condition that it does not mislead the consumer with names and/or logos that refer to a different territory (for example, Made in China with Italian flag). In this case, the importing company is responsible, towards the consumer, for the quality standard of the imported goods.

It is also possible to import the goods with the following indications:



- Imported by ... (followed by the company name of the importer which in this case may contain explicit references to the Italian territory)
- Distributed by ... (followed by the company name of the importer which in this case may contain explicit references to the Italian territory, but this solution is not always accepted by the Italian Customs Agency)

For the labelling “Made in ...” the Italian legislation refers to the definition of non-preferential origin (also called simple) of goods established by the Community Customs Code (EEC Regulation 2913/1992).

3.5 Non-Preferential Origin declaration

Non-preferential rules are used for all kinds of commercial policy measures, like, for instance, anti-dumping duties and countervailing duties, trade embargoes, safeguard and retaliation measures, quantitative restrictions, but also for some tariff quotas, for trade statistics, for public tenders, for origin marking, and so on. In addition, the EU's export refunds in the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy are often based on non-preferential origin.

There are two basic concepts to determine the origin of goods namely 'wholly obtained' products and products having undergone a "last substantial transformation".

If only one country is involved the "wholly obtained" concept will be applied. In practice this will be restricted to mostly products obtained in their natural state and products derived from wholly obtained products.

If two or more countries are involved in the production of goods, the concept of "last, substantial transformation" determines the origin of the goods.

In general the criterion of last substantial transformation is expressed in three ways:

- By a rule requiring a change of tariff (sub) heading in the HS nomenclature;
- By a list of manufacturing or processing operations that do or do not confer on the goods the origin of the country in which these operations were carried out;
- By a value added rule, where the increase of value due to assembly operations and incorporation of originating materials represents a specified level of the ex-works price of the product.

According to Article 24 of EEC Regulation 2913/1992 *“goods whose production involved more than one country shall be deemed to originate in the country where they underwent their last, substantial, economically justified processing or working in an undertaking equipped for that purpose and resulting in the manufacture of a new product or representing an important stage of manufacture”*.

The provisions of Article 37 of the Implementing Provisions of the Community Customs Code (Reg. 2454/1993) state that *“Working or processing as a result of which the products obtained receive a classification under a heading of the combined*



nomenclature other than those covering the various non-originating materials used shall be regarded as complete processes."

In the first column of the table in Annex 10 to Community Regulation 2454/1993, the Combined Nomenclature (CN) codes are listed, in the second column the description of the product obtained and in the third column the minimum operations to be carried out on materials to confer non-preferential origin are listed.

Annex 10 of Community Regulation 2454/1993 provides that for the "customs items" expressly referred to, reference must be made to the specific rule provided for in column 3, regardless of whether the customs item is changed or not.

- operations to ensure the preservation of the products
- simple operations such as dusting, oiling, sorting, grading, sizing, washing, cutting into pieces
- changes of packing, division or assembly of lots (simple bagging, cartoning, boxes or boards)
- affixing marks, labels and other distinctive signs on products and their packaging
- a simple assembly of the various parts of a product to form a finished product
- a combination of two or more of the operations specified above

NON PREFERENTIAL ORIGIN DECLARATION	
PRODUCT	→ MINIMUM PROCESSING in order to obtain non-preferential origin
Yarn	→ Spinning from fibre
Yarn dyed	→ Yarn dyeing with a minimum added value of 52% of the finished product price
unbleached fabric (warp/weft)	→ Weaving
knitted fabric	→ Knitting
printed fabric	→ Printing + at least two additional preparation or finishing operations
dyed fabric	→ Dyeing + at least two additional preparation or finishing operations
garment make up	→ Sewing

3.5.1 Example of non-preferential origin of goods

Long-term supplier's declaration for products of non-preferential origin

I, the undersigned, declare that the goods described below:



..... (1)

..... (2)

which are regularly supplied to (3)

are produced (4)

in the European Union, namely in (5), and satisfy
the rules of origin according to the Union Customs Code art. 61 sub 3.(6)

outside the European Union and originate in (7)

This declaration is valid for all shipments of these products dispatched
from to (8).

I undertake to inform (3) immediately if this declaration is no longer valid.

I undertake to make available to the Chamber of Commerce any further supporting documents
they require.

Place and date :

Name and function :

Name and address
of the company :

Signature :

3.5 Preferential origin declaration

Preferential origin is conferred on goods from particular countries, which have fulfilled certain criteria allowing preferential rates of duty to be claimed.

While the provisions of the individual arrangements may vary in certain details, most preferential origin arrangements have a number of common provisions.

Each individual arrangement has its own legal base.

A declaration of preferential origin is defined as the allocation of origin in order to benefit from preferential duties (duty facilitations) by means of agreements. In order to be able to attribute the preferential origin of the goods, processing operations must be carried out which are considered “Sufficiently worked or processed”.



These operations must modify the product's customs code to at least the second number, which therefore affects sufficient processing.

Treatments intended to preserve the product (repackaging, rewinding, spraying with insecticide, etc.) are always considered to be insufficient.

The tables in the Annex to the Customs Code list the working or processing required to be carried out on materials in order to obtain preferential origin.

In the first column the Combined Nomenclature (CN) codes are listed, in the second column the description of the product obtained and in the third column the minimum operations to be carried out on materials to confer preferential origin are listed.

Example of the table for textile materials and manufactures in Section XI

Heading Code	Description of product	Working or processing, carried out on non-originating materials, which confers originating status
5208	Woven fabrics of cotton	Weaving (from yarn) or Printing accompanied by at least two preparatory or finishing operations (such as scouring, bleaching, mercerising, heat setting, raising, calendering, sanfor) where the value of the printed fabric used does not exceed 47.5% of the ex-works price of the product
Chapter 60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics	Spinning of natural and/or man-made staple fibres or extrusion of man-made filament yarn, in each case accompanied by knitting or Knitting accompanied by dyeing or by flocking or by coating or Flocking accompanied by dyeing or by printing or Dyeing of yarn of natural fibres accompanied by knitting Or Twisting or texturing accompanied by knitting provided that the value of the non-twisted/non-textured yarns used does not exceed 47,5 % of the ex-works price of the product



To simplify the understanding of the topic, we could summarize in "table", as an example, some minimum operations from which to obtain the origin of textile products.

It is understood that all the operations prior to that described in the table, if carried out on European territory, automatically acquire preferential origin.

PREFERENTIAL ORIGIN (At least TWO substantial transactions in the same country)	
PRODUCT	→ MINIMUM PROCESSING in order to obtain preferential origin
Yarn	→ Fibre to strip and from strip to Yarn
Unbleached fabric warp/weft	→ Spinning + weaving
unbleached knitted fabric	→ Spinning + knitting
Printed fabric	→ Printing + at least two additional operations. The raw fabric value does not exceed 47.5% of the ex-works price of the product.
Dyed orthogonal fabric	→ Spinning from fibre + weaving + dyeing
printed knitted fabric	→ Spinning + weaving + ennobling
garment make up	→ weaving + making up

It is important to be careful as there are many exceptions to the basic regulation. An example is the chapter concerning silk (it is sufficient to change only one customs heading instead of two as mentioned above).

For example: printing an imported silk fabric, involving both preliminary and subsequent printing operations, does not change the customs code (chap.5007), but the fabric acquires the origin of the country in which the operation is carried out.

3.6.1 Example of a preferential declaration

Long term declaration

I, the undersigned, supplier of the goods covered by this document, which are regularly sent to (1), declare that:



The following materials which do not have a preferential originating status have been used in the European Union to produce these goods:

Description of the good supplied	Description of non-originating materials used	HS heading of non-originating materials used	Value of non-originating materials used
Tex Cod. art. 123	yarn	(not sign)	(not sign)
			Total:

All other materials used in the European Union to produce these goods originate in (5) and satisfy the rules of origin governing preferential trade with:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| AL Albania | GT Guatemala | NO Norway | XL Melilla |
| BA Bosnia-Herzegovina | HN Honduras | PA Panama | XS Serbia |
| CH Swiss | IL Israel | PE Peru | ZA South Africa |
| CL Chile | JO Jordan | PG Papua Nuova Guinea | KR Korea |
| CO Colombia | LB Lebanon | PS Occupied Territories | UA Ukraine |
| CM Cameroon | LI Liechtenstein | SC Seychelles | APE |
| CR Costa Rica | MA Morocco | SV El Salvador | ACP |
| DZ Algeria | MD Moldova | SY Syria | CARIFORUM |
| EG Egypt | ME Montenegro | TN Tunisia | PTOM |
| FO Faroer (Isle) | MK Macedonia | TR Turkey | SPG |
| IS Island | MX Mexico | XC Ceuta | |
| GE Georgia | NI Nicaragua | XK Kosovo | |

I declare that: cumulus not applied/applied with ...

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	non-applied cumulus
<input type="checkbox"/>	cumulus applied with:

This declaration is valid for all shipments of these products dispatched from/to: (max 2 years)



to from

I undertake to inform immediately if this declaration is no longer valid.

I undertake to make available to the customs authorities any further supporting documents needed.

Date:

Sign:

3.7 The Agreements

As mentioned, preferential origin allows benefiting from duty facilitations. Over the years, from 1948 to the present day, there have been agreements that make it possible to facilitate developing countries and block others that could become dominant countries.

Cumulation rules (agreements) have been established, for which, even if sufficient processing has not been carried out in a particular country, but there is an agreement between the countries concerned, the product takes the preferential origin.

3.7.1 Examples of bilateral agreements, diagonal cumulation and full cumulation

Bilateral agreements:

Bilateral cumulation operates between two countries where a free trade agreement or autonomous arrangement contains a provision allowing them to cumulate origin

Country A = yarn of preferential origin: Country A

Country B = weaving

If country B export to country A the product would not obtain the preferential origin of country B without the bilateral agreement, due it would be necessary to have also the spinning operation.

If country B exports to country C, it loses the origin that returns from country A.

A similar agreement exists between the European Union and EFTA (European Free Trade Association - EFTA currently consists of four states: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland)

Diagonal Cumulation:



Diagonal cumulation operates between more than two countries provided they have Free Trade Agreements containing identical origin rules and provision for cumulation between them. As with bilateral cumulation, only originating products or materials can benefit from diagonal cumulation.

Country A = yarn of preferential origin Country A

Country B = weaving

Country C = Import the fabric

The product would not obtain the preferential origin of B, but if there is a diagonal agreement between country A, B and C, the preferential origin is that of country B.

If country B exports to country D, which has no agreements between country A and country B, the product loses the origin that returns from country A (as weaving by itself does not acquire origin).

Full cumulation:

Finally, full cumulation is a special kind of agreement (e.g. a pan-European agreement between the EU and the Mediterranean countries), which makes it possible to obtain the origin of the cumulative transactions.

Full cumulation allows the parties to an agreement to carry out working or processing on non-originating products in the area formed by them. Full cumulation means that all operations carried out in the participating countries are taken into account. While other forms of cumulation require that the goods be originating before being exported from one party to another for further working or processing, this is not the case with full cumulation.

Example:

Yarn from Pakistan, spun in the European Union, woven in EFTA, ennobled in the European Union, cut in Turkey and made up in the European Union, takes the origin of the European Union.

As can be seen, all the operations taken individually would not confer preferential origin, therefore the product would maintain its Pakistani origin, but since this agreement exists, it acquires EU origin.

However, due to the complexity of the subject, it is advisable to consult experts in order to avoid errors in the topic.

At the end of the page there are useful websites to consult for constant updates on duty rates, modified agreements, implemented Combined Nomenclature (CN) tables, etc.



3.8 If you are willing to deepen the topics covered in this unit

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/it/index.htm>

<http://mkaccdb.eu.int/mkaccdb2/indexPubli.htm>

<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/sigl/choice.htm>

https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/rules-origin/general-aspects-preferential-origin/common-provisions_en

[Nuova Guida all'Origine Non Preferenziale della Merce – Unioncamere Lombardia](#)

[Guida alla corretta compilazione delle etichette di composizione dei prodotti tessili – Ravenna Chamber of Commerce](#)

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/SV/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.C_.2015.076.01.0001.01.ENG

<http://www.wto.org>

<http://www.agenziadogane.it/wps/wcm/connect/ed>

<http://www.attivitaproduttive.gov.it/redirect1.htm>

<http://www.mincomes.it>

<http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/>

<http://www.sistemamodaitalia.com/it/i-simboli-ginetex/item/8726-cosa-sono-e-come-funzionano>

<http://www.sadidogane.it>

<http://www.centrospedizionieri.it/vt-index.html>

<http://www.sviluppoeconomico.gov.it/index.php/it/commercio-internazionale/import-export/tessile-import>

