STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1976 No. 202

TRADE DESCRIPTIONS

The Textile Products (Determination of Composition) Regulations 1976

Made - - - -	13*th February* 1976
Laid before Parliament	23*rd February* 1976
Coming into Operation	19*th March* 1976

The Secretary of State, being a Minister designated **(a)** for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972**(b)** concerning the composition, marketing, labelling, classification or description of textiles and products incorporating textiles, in exercise of the powers conferred by that section, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Textile Products (Determination of Composition) Regulations 1976 and shall come into operation on 19th March 1976.

2.—(1) In these Regulations:—

"B.S. 4407" means the British Standard of that number published by the British Standards Institution in November 1975;

"textile product" has the same meaning as in the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1973**(c)**, as amended **(d)**.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889**(e)** shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(3) For the purposes of these Regulations a reference in B.S. 4407 to another British Standard shall be construed as a reference to that other British Standard as it has effect on the date on which these Regulations are made.

3.—(1) These Regulations shall apply for determining for the purposes of the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1973 in the course of any official test the composition of any textile product comprising a binary textile fibre mixture or a ternary textile fibre mixture.

(2) In this Regulation "official test" means a test carried out by or on behalf of a person whose duty it is to enforce the said Regulations of 1973.

4. Test samples and test specimens of a textile product shall be prepared for analysis in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 hereto.

(a) The European Communities (Designation) Order 1972, S.I. 1972/1811 (1972 III, p. 5216).

(b) 1972 c. 68.

(c) S.I. 1973/2124 (1973 III, p. 7301).

(d) S.I. 1975/928 (1975 II, p. 3239).

(e) 1889 c. 63.

5.—(1) Wherever possible the fibre components of the textile product being analysed shall be separated manually. Where this is not possible the method used shall be based on the selective solution of the individual components.

(2) Where manual separation is possible the analysis shall be carried out in accordance with sections two and three of B.S. 4407, and the results shall be calculated and expressed in accordance with the said section two.

(3) Where manual separation is not possible the analysis shall be carried out in accordance with section two of B.S. 4407 and (subject to Regulation 7 below) with the appropriate method set out in section four thereof; and in the case of a ternary mixture in accordance with one or more of the four variants set out in section five thereof. The results shall be calculated and expressed in accordance with the said section four.

Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall be taken as restricting the choice of which of the four variants is or are to be used in the analysis of any particular ternary mixture.

(4) The test report shall comply with the provisions of clause 10 of B.S. 4407, and in the case of a ternary mixture, shall also indicate the variant or variants used to carry out the analysis.

6. The composition of a textile product comprising a binary textile fibre mixture other than one for which a special method of test is set out in section four of B.S. 4407 shall be ascertained by the use of any valid method of analysis; and the test report shall set out the result obtained and, so far as is known, the degree of accuracy of the method used.

7. Regulations 5(3) and 6 shall have effect as if methods 3 and 14 were omitted from section four of B.S. 4407:

Provided that nothing in this Regulation shall be taken as prohibiting the use of those methods in appropriate cases.

8. The provisions of Schedule 2 hereto shall apply in relation to tests carried out for the purposes of these Regulations.

Neil G. Carmichael,
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Industry.

13th February 1976.

Regulation 4

SCHEDULE 1

PREPARATION OF TEST SAMPLES AND TEST SPECIMENS TO DETERMINE THE FIBRE COMPOSITION OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS

Field of application

1. This Schedule gives procedures for obtaining laboratory test samples of a suitable size for pre-treatment for quantitative analysis (i.e. of a mass not exceeding 100 g) from laboratory bulk samples, and for selecting test specimens from the laboratory test samples that have been pre-treated to remove non-fibrous matter[1].

Definitions

2. In this Schedule—

"bulk source" means that quantity of material which is judged on the basis of one series of test results. This may comprise, for example, all the material in one delivery of cloth; all the cloth woven from a particular beam; a consignment of yarn, a bale or a group of bales of raw fibre;

"laboratory bulk sample" means that portion of the bulk source taken to be representative of the whole, and which is available to the laboratory. The size and nature of the laboratory bulk sample should be sufficient to overcome adequately the variability of the bulk source and to facilitate ease of handling in the laboratory[2];

"laboratory test sample" means that portion of the laboratory bulk sample that is subjected to pre-treatment to remove non-fibrous matter, and from which test specimens are taken. The size and nature of the laboratory test sample should be sufficient to overcome adequately the variability of the laboratory bulk sample;[3]

"test specimen" means the portion of material required to give an individual test result, and selected from the laboratory test sample.

Principle

3. The laboratory test sample is selected so that it is representative of the laboratory bulk sample.

The test specimens are taken from the laboratory test sample in such a way that each of them is representative of the laboratory test sample.

Sampling from loose fibres

4.—(1) Unorientated fibres—Obtain the laboratory test sample by selecting at random tufts from the laboratory bulk sample. Mix thoroughly the whole of the laboratory test sample by means of a laboratory carder.[4] Subject the web or mixture, including loose fibres and fibres adhering to the equipment used for mixing, to the pre-treatment Then select test specimens, in proportion to the respective masses, from the web or mixture, from the loose fibres and from the fibres adhering to the equipment.

If the card web remains intact after pre-treatment, select the test specimens in the manner described in sub-paragraph (2) below. If the card web is disturbed by the pre-treatment, select each test specimen by removing at random at least 16 small tufts of suitable and approximately equal size and then combine them.

(2) Orientated fibres (cards, webs, slivers, rovings)—From randomly selected parts of the laboratory bulk sample cut not less than ten cross-sections each of mass approximately 1 g. Subject the laboratory test sample so formed to the pre-treatment. Recombine the cross-sections by laying them side by side and obtain the test specimen by cutting through them so as to take a portion of each of the ten lengths.

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1 In some cases it is necessary to pre-treat the individual test specimen.
2 For made-up and finished articles see paragraph 7.
3 See paragraph 1.
4 The laboratory carder may be replaced by a fibre blender, or the fibres may be mixed by the method of "tufts and rejects".

Sampling yarn

5.—(1) Yarn in packages or in hanks—Sample all the packages in the bulk laboratory sample.

Withdrawn the appropriate continuous equal lengths from each package either by winding skeins of the same number of turns on a wrap-reel,[1] or by some other means, Unite the lengths side by side either as a single skein or as a tow to form the laboratory test sample, ensuring that there are equal lengths from each package in the skein or tow.

Subject the laboratory test sample to the pre-treatment.

Take test specimens from the laboratory test sample by cutting a bunch of threads of equal length from the skein or tow, taking care to see that the bunch contains all the threads in the sample.

If the tex of the yarn is t and the number of packages selected from the laboratory bulk sample is n, then to obtain a test sample of 10 g, the length of yarn to be withdrawn from each package is $\frac{10^6}{nt}$ cm.

If nt is high, i.e. more than 2000, wind a heavier skein and cut it across in two places to make a tow of suitable mass. The ends of any sample in the form of a tow should be securely tied before pre-treatment and test specimens taken from a place remote from the tie bands.

(2) Yarn on warp—Take the laboratory test sample by cutting a length from the end of the warp, not less than 20 cm long and comprising all the yarns in the warp except the selvedge yarns, which are rejected. Tie the bunch of threads together near one end. If the sample is too large for pre-treatment as a whole divide it into two or more portions, each tied together for pre-treatment, and reunite the portions after each has been pre-treated separately. Take a test specimen by cutting a suitable length from the laboratory test sample from the end remote from the tie band, and comprising all the threads in the warp. For warp of N threads of tex t, the length of a specimen of mass 1 g is $\frac{10^5}{Nt}$ cm.

Sampling fabric

6.—(1) From a laboratory bulk sample consisting of a single cutting representative of the cloth—Cut a diagonal strip from one corner to the other and remove the selvedges. This strip is the laboratory test sample. To obtain a laboratory test sample of x g, the strip area shall be $\frac{x\ 10^4}{G}$ cm^2, where G is the mass of the cloth in g/m^2.

Subject the laboratory test sample to the pre-treatment and then cut the strip transversely into four equal lengths and superimpose them.

Take test specimens from any part of the layered material by cutting through all the layers so that each specimen contains an equal length of each layer.

If the fabric has a woven design, make the width of the laboratory test sample, measured parallel to the warp direction, not less than one warp repeat of the design. If, with this condition satisfied, the laboratory test sample is too large to be treated as a whole, cut it into equal parts, pre-treat them separately, and superimpose these parts before selection of the test specimen, taking care that corresponding parts of the design do not coincide.

(2) From a laboratory bulk sample consisting of several cuttings—Treat each cutting as described in sub-paragraph (1) above, and give each result separately.

Sampling made-up and finished articles

7. The bulk laboratory sample is normally a complete made-up or finished article or a representative fraction of one.

[1] If the packages can be mounted in a convenient creel a number can be wound simultaneously.

Where appropriate determine the percentage of the various parts of the article not having the same fibre content, in order to check compliance with Regulation 3(4) of the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1973.

Select a laboratory test sample representative of the part of the made-up or finished article, whose composition must be shown by the label. If the article has several labels, select laboratory test samples representative of each part corresponding to a given label.

If the article whose composition is to be determined is not uniform, it may be necessary to select laboratory test samples from each of the parts of the article and to determine the relative proportions of the various parts in relation to the whole article in question.

Then calculate the percentages taking into account the relative proportions of the sampled parts.

Subject the laboratory test samples to the pre-treatment.
Then select test specimens representative of the pre-treated laboratory test samples.

Regulation 8

SCHEDULE 2

1. Substances that are to be left out of account in calculating the percentage fibre content of the textile product by virtue of paragraph 7(1)(*d*) of Schedule 1 to the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1973 (that is to say, fatty substances, bindings, sizings, dressings, additional dyeing and printing products and other textile processing products) shall before analysis be removed by the appropriate method of pre-treatment provided for in B.S. 4407.

2. At least two determinations shall be made, either by manual separation or by chemical separation. If the results of duplicate tests differ by more than 2%, two repeat determinations shall be made.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These Regulations implement Council Directive No. 72/276/EEC (O.J. No. L173, 31.7.1972, p. 1) (O.J./S.E. 1972 (III), p. 787) as amended (Supplement to the first series of Special Editions (1952-1972) of the Official Journal of the European Communities—Consolidated edition of Corrigenda, p. 100, published in July 1975) and Council Directive No. 73/44/EEC (O.J. No. L83, 30.3.1973, p. 1).

The Regulations specify the test methods to be used to determine the composition of textile products comprising a binary textile fibre mixture or a ternary fibre mixture for the purposes of enforcement of the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1973.

SI 1976/202
ISBN 0-11-060202-1

