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(First Section)

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Wednesday 21 June 2006

Mexican Official STANDARD NOM-004-SCFI-2006, Commercial information-Labelling of textile products, items of clothing, accessories and household linen.

Margin contains a seal with the National Shield, which says: United States of Mexico.- Ministry of Economy.- State Office of Standards.

The Ministry of Economy, via the State Office of Standards, in accordance with articles 34 sections XIII and XXX of the Constitutional Law of the Federal Public Administration; 39 section V, 40 sections I and XII, 46, 47 section IV of Federal Law on Metrology and Standardisation and 19 sections I and XV of the Interior Regulation of this Ministry, and

CONSIDERING

That it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to obtain the measures that may be necessary to guarantee that products sold on national territory fulfil the necessary requirements in order to guarantee aspects of commercial information so as to achieve effective protection of consumers;

That on 31 July 2003, the National Consultative Committee of User Safety Standardisation, Commercial Information and Commerce Practices approved the publication of the Mexican Official Standard Project PROY-NOM-004-SCFI-2003, Commercial information-Labelling of textile products, items of clothing and associated accessories, which appeared in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 1 October 2003, with the intention of interested parties presenting their comments;

That during the period of 60 calendar days from the date of publication of the aforementioned Mexican Official Standard Project, the Declaration of Regulatory Impact referred to by article 45 of Federal Law on Metrology and Standardisation was available to the general public for viewing; and that during the same period, interested parties presented comments on the content of said Mexican Official Standard Project, which were analysed by the work group, carrying out the modifications resulting in the NOM project;

That on 21 April 2006, the National Consultative Committee of User Safety Standardisation, Commercial Information and Commerce Practices unanimously approved the aforementioned standard;

That Federal Law on Metrology and Standardisation stipulates that Mexican official standards constitute a genuine means for protecting consumer interests, the following is stated: Mexican Official Standard NOM-004-SCFI-2006, Commercial information-Labelling of textile products, items of clothing, associated accessories and household linen.

Mexico, D.F., 11 May 2006.- Director General of Standards, **Miguel Aguilar Romo**.-
Initialed.

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MEXICAN OFFICIAL STANDARD NOM-004-SCFI-2006, COMMERCIAL INFORMATION-LABELLING OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS, ITEMS OF CLOTHING, ASSOCIATED ACCESSORIES AND HOUSEHOLD LINEN

PREFACE

The following companies and institutions participated in preparing the present Mexican Official Standard:

ASOCIACION MEXICANA DE PRODUCTOS INFANTILES, A.C. (Mexican association of children's products)

ADIDAS INDUSTRIAL, S.A. DE C.V.

ALMACENADORA DE DEPOSITO MODERNO, S.A. DE C.V.

ASOCIACION NACIONAL DE IMPORTADORES Y EXPORTADORES DE LA REPUBLICA MEXICANA, A.C. (national association of importers and exporters of the Mexican republic)

ASOCIACION NACIONAL DE LA INDUSTRIA QUIMICA, A.C. (national association of the chemical industry)

ASOCIACION NACIONAL DE TIENDAS DE AUTOSERVICIO Y DEPARTAMENTALES, A.C. (national association of self-service and department stores)

ASOCIACION DE NORMALIZACION Y CERTIFICACION. A.C. (standardisation and certification association)

CALIDAD MEXICANA CERTIFICADA, A.C. (certified Mexican quality)

CAMARA MEXICANA DE LA INDUSTRIA TEXTIL CENTRAL (Mexican chamber of the central textile industry)

CAMARA NACIONAL DE COMERCIO, CIUDAD DE MEXICO (national chamber of commerce, Mexico City)

CAMARA NACIONAL DE LA INDUSTRIA TEXTIL (national chamber of the textile industry)

CAMARA NACIONAL DE LA INDUSTRIA DEL VESTIDO (national chamber of the clothing industry)

EVENFLO MEXICO, S.A. DE C.V.

FACTUAL SERVICES. S.A. DE CV

FEDERACION DE ASOCIACIONES DE INDUSTRIALES TEXTILES

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AGREMIADOS (federation of united textile manufacturer associations)

GESTORIA ADMINISTRATIVA ESPECIALIZADA, SA DE C.V.

GIGANTE, S.A. DE C.V.

INSTITUTO MEXICANO DE NORMALIZACION Y CERTIFICACION, A.C.
(Mexican institute of standardisation and certification)

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE NORMALIZACION TEXTIL, A.C. (national institute
of textile standardisation)

INSTITUTO POLITECNICO NACIONAL (national polytechnique institution)

Escuela Superior de Ingenieria Textil (higher college of textile engineering)

J C PENNEY COMERCIALIZADORA, S.A. DE C.V.

NORMALIZACION Y CERTIFICACION ELECTRONICA, A.C. (electronic
standardisation and certification)

NUEVA WAL-MART MEXICO, S. DE R.L. DE C.V.

PARFUMERIE VERSAILLES, S.A. DE C.V.

PROCURADURIA FEDERAL DEL CONSUMIDOR (federal attorney general's
office for consumers)

SECRETARIA DE ECONOMIA Dirección General de Industrias Básicas Dirección
General de Normas (ministry of economy - national office of primary industries,
national office of standards)

SERVICIO DE ADMINISTRACION TRIBUTARIA Administración General de
Aduanas (tax administration department - customs administration)

SEDERIA LA NUEVA, SA DE C.V.

SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE NORMALIZACION Y CERTIFICACION, S.C.
(Mexican society of standardisation and certification)

SUBURBIA, S.A. DE C.V.

SUNBEAM MEXICANA, S.A. DE C.V.

TECNOLOGIA TRAMITES ADMINISTRATIVOS ESPECIALIZADOS, SA DE
C.V.

3M MEXICO, S.A. DE C.V.

WARNER'S DE MEXICO, S.A. DE C.V.

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1. Subject and scope of application

1.1 The present Mexican Official Standard establishes the commercial information that national manufacturers and ready-made clothing companies, as well as importers, need to incorporate into textiles, household linen and items of clothing and associated accessories.

1.2 The commercial information referred to by the present Mexican Official Standard must be incorporated before the entrance into the country of textiles, items of clothing and associated accessories and household linen, manufactured with textile materials even if they contain plastics or other materials, that are sold within the territory of the United States of Mexico.

1.3 The labelling of textiles, items of clothing and household linen contains four main sections:

I) Manufacturer and/or importer information.

II) The composition of fibres (description of materials).

III) Care instructions (preservation and cleaning).

IV) The sizes of the items and the dimensions or measurements of household linen and textiles.

1.4 The present Mexican Official Standard is applicable to textile products, items of clothing, associated accessories and household linen whose textile component exceeds 50% of the total mass.

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1.5 This Mexican Official Standard does not apply to electric blankets, disposable diapers, sanitary towels, cotton buds, baby wipes, toys manufactured from textile materials, masks, furniture, watch straps made from textile material, shields, flags, zips and/or fasteners, buttons and buckles made from textile materials, certain cloths, oven gloves, makeup boxes, disposable cleaning cloths and materials used for wrapping and packaging.

The Ministry of Economy is responsible for determining which other products should not be included in the scope of application of this NOM.

2. References

In order for the correct application of this Mexican Official Standard to take place, the following current Mexican official standards and Mexican standards must apply in terms of the references expressly made:

NOM-008-SCFI-2002	General System of Measurement Units, published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 27 November 2002.
NMX-A-099-1995-INNTEX	Terminology and classification of textile fibres and filaments. Declaration of validity published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 15 January 1996.
NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2004	Textile industry-Clothing-Symbols in the care instructions of textile items-Specifications. Declaration of validity published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 23 April 2004.

3. Definitions

The following definitions are established for the purposes of the present Mexican Official Standard:

3.1 Accessory

Items used as ornaments on clothing or to complement the latter.

3.2 Carpet

A textile material lining for any surface and which requires an installation service.

3.3 Analogous

An adjective that denotes aspects or characteristics that are the same or similar to another concept used for comparative purposes.

3.4 Consumer

An individual or corporation that acquires or uses goods, products or services as an end user.

3.5 Seat cover

A removable cover made from textile material, the sole purpose of which is to cover an object used as a seat.

3.6 Label

Any marking symbol or device printed, woven, stamped or embroidered.

3.6.1 Permanent label

A label fixed to the product, made from cloth or any other material that has a lifespan at least equal to that of the product to which it relates, sewn or attached by thermal fixation or a similar process that guarantees its durability; may also be embroidered, printed or stamped onto the product.

3.6.2 Temporary label

A label made from any material and which can be removed.

3.7 Manufacturer

The individual or corporation responsible for a product. A manufacturer is considered to be an entity that makes a product and owns or holds the licence for the brand displayed by said product, even where said entity outsources its total or partial manufacture, preparation, completion or any other process.

3.8 Lining

The covering of a textile material made or designed to be entirely or partially worn on the inside of an item of clothing or on an accessory. Double-sided or reversible items of clothing are not considered as lining.

3.9 Input material

The primary material likely to be used in the manufacture or preparation of textiles, household linen and items of clothing and associated accessories, excluding materials incorporated into the product that are not made from textiles and used for functional purposes, such as buttons, zips, fasteners, etc.

3.10 Visible location

Any point on the front or reverse of the item of clothing or accessory, except for the interior of sleeves or legs of trousers, such that the label is visible by simply arranging

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the item ordinarily or reversed, without needing to separate or detach part or all of the lining or other elements of the item.

3.11 Country of origin

The place of manufacture, production or preparation of the product.

3.12 Item of clothing

An article made from textiles for the purposes of covering part of the body, except for shoes.

3.13 Protector

A cover placed on any piece of furniture for the purposes of protecting the latter against the effects of the environment and daily use.

3.14 Household linen

Items made from natural, synthetic and/or artificial fibres whose purpose is different from items of clothing, being designed for any of the following functions: protection, adornment or cleaning of the home and commercial or services establishments, including but not limited to: curtains, towels, carpets, blankets, covers, etc.

3.15 Rug

A textile material lining for any surface and which does not require an installation service.

3.16 Textile

A product prepared using fibres of natural, artificial or synthetic origin, including but not limited to yarn, sewing thread, worsted, cloth, cashmere, braids (lace, ribbons, embroidery, elastics) and similar items.

4. Information specifications

4.1 Commercial information

Information concerning products that are the subject of this Mexican Official Standard must be written in Spanish, be truthful, and be described and presented in such a way that no errors arise concerning the product's nature and characteristics.

Those persons who in any way deal in the products to which the present Mexican Official Standard applies must ask their suppliers to ensure that they display the commercial information established in said standard.

In the event of any verifications, if those conducting the latter need to obtain additional data to determine whether the information is truthful, they should request said information from the manufacturer or importer, who will be responsible for its

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accuracy. If there is no manufacturer or importer, the information should be requested from the trader, who is obliged to present the appropriate information in accordance with applicable legislation.

4.1.1 Items of clothing and associated accessories made using textile products, including those containing plastics.

Items of clothing and associated accessories must display the following information in a legible form on one or more permanent labels fixed to the lower part of the collar or waistline, or in any other visible location, in accordance with the characteristics of the item or accessory, as per the cases and terms stipulated by this Mexican Official Standard.

a) Commercial brand.

b) Description of input materials (percentage of mass in descending order, as per Mexican Standard NMX-A-099-1995-INNTEX, see section 2, References).

c) Sizes of items of clothing, or measurements of household linen and textiles.

d) Care instructions (brief and clear legends or symbols are permitted, as per Mexican Standard NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2004, although it is not mandatory that the latter are accompanied by legends).

e) Country of origin.

f) For individuals: Name and tax domicile of the manufacturer or importer, with a voluntary mention of the RFC (federal taxpayers register) number.

For corporations: Company name and tax domicile of the manufacturer or importer, with a voluntary mention of the RFC number.

The information referred to in line f) must appear on any of the labels mentioned in sections 3.6.1, 3.6.2 or on the closed packaging.

4.1.2 Textiles

Textiles and other products not included in the previous section must display the following information in a legible form, as per the cases and terms stipulated by this Mexican Official Standard:

a) Description of input materials (percentage of mass in descending order).

b) Country of origin.

c) For individuals: Name and tax domicile of the manufacturer or importer, with a voluntary mention of the RFC (federal taxpayers register) number.

For corporations: Company name and tax domicile of the manufacturer or importer, with a voluntary mention of the RFC number.

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The aforementioned information must be presented in accordance with the provisions of sections 5.2.1 or 5.2.2 as appropriate.

4.1.3 If the product is sold in closed packaging that does not allow the contents to be viewed, in addition to the information stipulated in section 4.1.1 or 4.1.2, as appropriate, said packaging should indicate the product and quantity contained.

4.1.4 The aforementioned information must be written in Spanish, as per Federal Law on Consumer Protection, but may also appear in any other language.

Commercial information required under the terms of the present Mexican Official Standard may also appear in another language, only when written in Spanish in the first instance.

4.1.5 When items of clothing are sold as a pair made from the same material, it is permitted to attach the label to just one of the pieces.

4.1.6 Products containing lining

This information may appear on the same label or on another, as long as it is specifically stated that the information corresponds to the lining, including the indication “lining: ...” or similar.

4.2 Commercial brand

The product’s commercial brand must be indicated.

If the product displays the name or company/trade name of the manufacturer or importer and said party uses a commercial brand that is the same as their name or company/trade name, it is not obligatory to indicate the aforementioned commercial brand.

4.3 Description of input materials

Under the terms of this Mexican Official Standard, the national manufacturer or importer must describe the percentage of input materials, in relation to the mass, of the different fibres contained in the product in descending order, in accordance with the following indications:

4.3.1 The names of fibres and their origin must be indicated as per chapters 3 and 4 of Mexican Standard NMX-A-099-INNTEX-1995 (see references section).

In this respect, it is obligatory to use the generic names (and not just symbols) of the fibres, contained in the aforementioned standard, and the use of abbreviations or names different to those indicated therein is not permitted. Where said standard lists more than one term to designate a fibre, use of any of the terms indicated is permitted providing that it corresponds to the fibre in question.

4.3.2 Any fibre contained in the item whose percentage is equal to or greater than 5% of the total must be indicated using its generic name.

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The commercial name or registered brand of any fibre may be used if authorisation has been obtained from the owner, providing that it appears alongside the fibre's generic name in characters of an equal size.

4.3.3 Fibres contained in the item that account for less than 5% of the total may be indicated as "others".

4.3.4 Textiles that contain two or more fibres must mention each of the fibres that represent at least 5% until the figure of 100% is reached.

4.3.5 If the textiles, items of clothing or accessories have been prepared or manufactured using recycled products, surplus products, different batches or textile by-products, including products which are unknown or whose origin cannot be ascertained, the percentage of fibres thereto pertaining or otherwise must be indicated by the legend "... (percentage) of reprocessed fibres."

4.3.6 If reprocessed fibres or a combination of these with virgin or reprocessed fibres are used, mention should be made of the percentages and generic names of each of the fibres contained in the products, with the word "reprocessed" appearing after the fibre's name.

4.3.7 The words "virgin or new" may only be used if all fibres contained in the textile are new or virgin.

4.3.8 No animal names may be used when referring to the fibres contained in the textile, unless the fibre or textile is made with hair taken from the skin of the animal in question. The combination of words that imply or point towards the existence of components derived from the skin, hair or product of any animal is prohibited.

4.3.9 A 3% error is permitted in the input materials of textiles, household linen and items of clothing and associated accessories expressed as a percentage, except in cases where expressions such as "100% Pure..." or "All..." are used when referring to the product's input materials. This error applies to the mass of each of the fibres or input materials and not the product's total mass, except in cases provided for by sections 4.3.10 and 4.3.11 of the present Mexican Official Standard.

4.3.10 A 3% error is permitted when referring to the product's total mass, and not the mass of each of the fibres or input materials, in the following cases:

- a) elastic waistlines;
- b) stockings and panty-hose whose manufacture employs input materials made with elastomeric fibres of a natural or synthetic origin;
- c) imitation braids, threads, yarns and coarse threads.

4.3.11 The label must indicate the input materials of items of clothing that have been incorporated into the latter for the purposes of ornamentation, protection or reinforcement if their mass exceeds 5% of the product's total mass or their surface area exceeds 15% of the product's total surface area.

4.4 Sizes

4.4.1 The sizes of items of clothing must be written in Spanish, but may also appear in any other language in the second instance, recognising the expressions or abbreviations normally used as per everyday use and customs

4.4.2 The measurements of household linen must be written in accordance with the symbols used in the General System of Measurement Units, such as: m, cm, mm (see NOM-008-SCFI), although other measurement unit systems may also appear.

4.4.3 The measurements of textiles must be written in accordance with the symbols used in the General System of Measurement Units, such as: m, cm, mm (see NOM-008-SCFI), although other measurement unit systems may also appear.

4.5 Care instructions

Items of clothing, household linen and accessories must only display information relating to proper treatment and care and preservation instructions required by the product and determined by the manufacturer, including, as appropriate, the following information: ...

4.5.1 Washing

a) By hand, washing machine, dry cleaning or a special process or any recommendation contrary to any of these types of washing.

b) Water temperature.

c) With soap or detergent or the product recommended by the manufacturer or importer.

4.5.2 Bleaching

Use or otherwise of chlorine components or other bleaches.

4.5.3 Drying

a) Squeeze dry or non-squeeze dry.

b) In the sun or in the shade.

c) Hung or dried flat.

d) Use or recommendation to the contrary of special equipment, domestic or industrial drier.

e) Specific recommendations regarding temperature or drying cycle.

4.5.4 Ironing

a) With a warm, hot or steam iron, or 'do not iron' recommendation.

b) Special conditions, if applicable.

4.5.5 Particular recommendations, including the specific mention of any tendency to shrink or misshapen and indicating instructions to remedy such occurrences.

4.5.6 The product's care and preservation instructions must be indicated using brief and clear legends or the symbols indicated in the NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2004 reference.

Symbols different from those stipulated in the aforementioned standard may be used, only if the legend relating to proper treatment and the care and preservation instructions also appears in Spanish.

4.6 Country of origin

Information on the country of origin must comply with the following:

4.6.1 If the finished product and all of its input materials are manufactured and produced in the same country, the legend "made in ... (country of origin)", "manufactured in ... (country of origin)" or an analogous expression must preferably be used.

4.6.2 If the product is manufactured in one country, while the input materials come from others, the legend "Made in ... (country of manufacture) with imported input materials" must be used; mention of the origin of the input materials used is voluntary.

4.7 Finishing

If information is displayed concerning the product's finish, this must be accompanied by the name of the process, including but not limited to: "waterproofed, pre-shrunk, mercerised, fire retardant, etc."

4.8 The legend "Handmade" may only be used if the product is manufactured, prepared or produced entirely by hand.

The wording "handmade" must be accompanied by a description of the part of the process conducted by hand, for example "hand stitched".

5. Organisation of commercial information

5.1 Items of clothing, accessories and household linen

5.1.1 Household linen

The information required as per lines a), b), d) and e) of section 4.1.1 must appear on the permanent label (see section 3.6.1) of the following articles:

The information required as per lines c) and f), except in line b) relating to bedclothes and blankets, must appear on the temporary or permanent label.

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- a) Sheets.
- b) Bedclothes and blankets, except for electric blankets.
- c) Bedspreads.
- d) Tablecloths.
- e) Placemats.
- f) Napkins.
- g) Protectors.
- h) Readymade curtains.
- i) Towels.
- j) Mattresses and mattress bases made or lined with textiles.
- k) Reversible garments

5.1.2 The information required as per section 4.1.1 must appear on the temporary or permanent label, on the box, container, packaging or wrapping in which the product is sold to consumers, or on the product itself, in the following cases:

- a) Panty-hose.
- b) Stockings and suspenders.
- c) Socks and tights.
- d) Any other products designated by the Ministry of Economy.
- e) Headbands.
- f) Wristbands.

5.2 Textiles and other products made using fibres or cloths

5.2.1 The information indicated in section 4.1.2 must appear on the permanent or temporary label (see sections 3.6.1 and 3.6.2) in the following cases:

- a) Cuts of cloth conditioned for sale providing that they contain 45% or more combed wool and do not exceed five metres (Cashmere).
- b) Handbags.
- c) Suitcases.
- d) Purses.

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- e) Wallets.
- f) Boxes.
- g) Backpacks.
- h) Umbrellas and parasols.
- i) Seat covers.
- j) Articles used for covering household electrical and other goods.
- k) Ironing board covers.
- l) Bathroom furniture covers.
- m) Furniture covers.
- n) Cushions.
- o) Cleaning supplies.
- p) Baby clothes.
- q) Painting canvas.
- r) Baby-sitters.
- s) Diapers.
- t) Bibs.
- u) Changers.
- v) Textile belts.

5.2.2 The information required as per section 4.1.2 must appear on the permanent or temporary label stuck or fixed to the product, in the following cases:

- a) Woven or unwoven clothes of any kind.
- b) Carpets, low carpets and rugs made from textile materials.
- c) Wigs.
- d) Articles for use with hair (except for those that due to their small size need to be packed in bulk).
- e) Bow ties.

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f) Articles designed to be used only once (disposable). In this case, the information referred to in section 4.1.2 may appear on the packaging.

5.3 If packages are sold containing different products covered by the present Mexican Official Standard, each one must comply with it individually.

6. Vigilance

6.1 The applicable authorities shall be responsible for ensuring the correct application of this Mexican Official Standard.

7. Bibliography

Federal Law on Metrology and Standardisation, published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 1 July 1992.

Regulation of Federal Law on Metrology and Standardisation, published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 14 January 1999.

NMX-Z-013-1977, Guide to the drafting, structuring and presentation of Mexican official standards. Declaration of validity published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 31 October 1977.

8. Compliance with international standards

The present Mexican Official Standard does not comply with any international standard due to the non-existence of any reference at the time of its preparation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ONE: The present Mexican Official Standard shall come into effect 60 calendar days after its publication in the Official Bulletin of the Federation and the evaluation of its conformity shall be conducted in compliance with the provisions of article 50 of the Regulation of Federal Law on Metrology and Standardisation.

TWO: The present Mexican Official Standard replaces Mexican Official Standard NOM-004-SCFI-1994, Commercial information-Labelling of textile products, items of clothing and associated accessories, published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 24 January 1996.

Mexico, D.F., 11 May 2006.- The Director General, **Miguel Aguilar Romo**.- Initialled.