

**Notice to Importers 2769 issued on 8 December 2008 by Import Licensing Branch (ILB),  
Queensway House, West Precinct, Billingham TS23 2NF**

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## **Imports of Restricted Textile and Clothing Products Originating in North Korea – 2009 Arrangements**

This notice sets out the European Community (EC) quantitative limits (quotas) and import licensing arrangements for 2009 covering imports into free circulation within the EC of certain restricted textiles originating in North Korea. The category numbers covered by these arrangements are given in Tables 1 & 2 at the end of this notice

2. Importers should note that the licensing arrangements set out in this notice still apply when the restricted goods are consigned from a country other than the country of origin (unless the goods are already in free circulation either in the EC or Turkey prior to their transfer to the UK) and no matter how the goods are ordered or shipped.

### **Licensing Arrangements**

3. The quotas detailed in Table 1 will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Importers may now submit applications to this Branch or any other competent licensing authority in the EC. Applications received prior to 4 January 2009 will be held and submitted to the European Commission for approval at 9 am (G.M.T.) (10 am Brussels time) on 7 January 2009. Import licences can only be issued once the European Commission has given approval.

4. Importers may submit only one application per category and must not exceed the maximum amounts shown in Table 1. The maximum amounts shall not apply to importers who can prove when making their first application for the year 2009 that they imported more than the maximum quantities for a given category during 2008. In such cases importers may apply for and receive an amount equal to the quantities imported in 2008 for the given category, provided that enough quota is available. Importers who fall into this category should return their 2008 import licences as proof of the quantities actually imported.

5. Table 2 gives details of those categories for North Korea where the quota level is currently set at zero. It is possible for quotas to be opened for these products. For further information contact Grant Mosedale, EITD, Trade Operations Europe, Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform on telephone number 0207 215 5044 or email [grant.mosedale@berr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:grant.mosedale@berr.gsi.gov.uk)

### **Where to apply**

6. Importers may apply to any competent licensing authority in the EC for an import licence. ILB is the competent licensing authority in the UK. Details of the other competent licensing authorities are available from ILB on request.

### **How to apply**

7. Applications from importers applying to the UK for import licences should be made on form ILB/W and sent to ILB at the address above. Form ILB/W (electronic or hard copy) can be obtained from ILB. The form is also available on the BERR website at <http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file22857.doc> Prior to the issue of any import licences under these arrangements, importers must provide evidence of a contract between the supplier and importer for the category concerned. In addition importers must also provide a written declaration that they are not already in receipt of an import licence issued under this regime for the same category.

### **Validity of Import Licences**

8. Import licences issued under these arrangements will be valid for 9 months from the date of issue but in no case later than 31 December 2009. A three month extension to the validity of an import licence may

be granted if the importer can show that at least 50% of the import licence has been used at the time of the request. Any extensions shall not go beyond 31 March 2010.

### **Electronic Import Licences**

9. The UK issues electronic import licences that are only valid for use in the UK. If the importer intends to clear the goods in another Member State ILB will issue a paper licence. For this reason applicants should state on the application form whether the goods are to be cleared in the UK or elsewhere in the EC.

### **Returning Electronic Import Licences**

10. Importers are reminded that when an electronic import licence is fully used Box 44 status field on the Customs computer should be 'EE' for exhausted on its last entry. Partially used licences that are no longer required should be surrendered by using 'ES' in the Box 44 status field when the last entry is being made. Contact ILB to surrender an import licence outside of making an entry and it will be cancelled from CHIEF. If the consignment's entry into free circulation is delayed beyond the validity of the import licence the original licence may have to be surrendered and a new licence issued.

### **Further Quantities**

11. Providing that quantities are still available, an importer may submit a further application for the same category provided he has used at least 50% of the amount already allocated to him and subject to the maximum quantities detailed in Table 1.

### **Information on Quota Utilisation**

12. Information regarding the rate of utilisation of the quotas is provided on the SIGL website by the European Commission. The website address is <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/sigl> and can be accessed free of charge.

### **Inward Processing Relief**

13. Goods which are intended to be re-exported outside of the European Community and which are subject to Inward Processing Relief (suspension of duty) shall not be subject to these arrangements. They may be imported under the authority of the Open General Import Licence.

### **Low Value Imports**

14. As a result of changes to Customs legislation importers of goods of a value of £120 or less will not need to apply for an import licence.

### **Warning**

15. As import licences will be issued on a first come first served basis importers are advised to submit applications promptly. However there is no guarantee that any requests will be granted in full or in part. Importers should not enter into binding contracts before they have received the import licence.

#### *Enquiries:*

Andrew Cobby

Tel: 01642 364318

Fax: 01642 364203

Minicom: 01642 364227

Email: [enquiries.ilb@berr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.ilb@berr.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: From the A-Z index at the top right at <http://www.berr.gov.uk> click on 'I' and then click [Import Licensing Branch \(ILB\)](#)

*This document is for information purposes only and has no legal force in law. Please note that where legal advice is required, importers should make their own arrangements.*

**TABLE 1 2009 Annual Limits and Maximum Amounts**

<i>Category</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Annual Limit</i>	<i>Maximum Amounts</i>
1	Kgs	128,000	10,000
2	Kgs	153,000	10,000
3	Kgs	117,000	10,000
4	Pieces	289,000	10,000
5	Pieces	189,000	10,000
6	Pieces	218,000	10,000
7	Pieces	101,000	10,000
8	Pieces	302,000	10,000
9	Kgs	71,000	10,000
12	Pairs	1,308,000	10,000
13	Pieces	1,509,000	10,000
14	Pieces	154,000	10,000
15	Pieces	175,000	10,000
16	Pieces	88,000	10,000
17	Pieces	61,000	10,000
18	Kgs	61,000	10,000
19	Pieces	411,000	10,000
20	Kgs	142,000	10,000
21	Pieces	3,416,000	10,000
24	Pieces	263,000	10,000
26	Pieces	176,000	10,000
27	Pieces	289,000	10,000
28	Pieces	286,000	10,000
29	Pieces	120,000	10,000
31	Pieces	293,000	10,000
36	Kgs	96,000	10,000
37	Kgs	394,000	10,000
39	Kgs	51,000	10,000
59	Kgs	466,000	10,000
61	Kgs	40,000	10,000
68	Kgs	120,000	10,000
69	Pieces	184,000	10,000
70	Pieces	270,000	10,000
73	Pieces	149,000	10,000
74	Pieces	133,000	10,000
75	Pieces	39,000	10,000
76	Kgs	120,000	10,000
77	Kgs	14,000	5,000
78	Kgs	184,000	5,000
83	Kgs	54,000	10,000
87	Kgs	8,000	10,000
109	Kgs	11,000	10,000
117	Kgs	52,000	10,000
118	Kgs	23,000	10,000
142	Kgs	10,000	10,000
151A	Kgs	10,000	10,000
151B	Kgs	10,000	10,000
161	Kgs	152,000	10,000

**TABLE 2**

**Categories with quota levels set at zero.**

10, 22, 23, 32, 33, 34, 35, 38A, 38B, 40, 41, 42, 49, 50, 53, 54, 55, 58, 62, 63, 65, 66, 67, 72, 84, 85, 86, 88, 90, 91, 93, 97, 99, 100, 101, 111, 112, 113, 114, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 130A, 130B, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 145, 146A, 146B, 146C, 149, 150, 153, 156, 157, 159, 160.