

Notice to Importers 2771 issued on 6 January 2009 by Import Licensing Branch (ILB), Queensway House, West Precinct, Billingham TS23 2NF

Imports of Restricted Textile and Clothing Products Originating in Belarus – 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 Belarus. The category numbers covered by these arrangements are given in the Table 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 United Kingdom) and no matter how the goods are ordered or shipped.

Changes in 2009

3. Following the revision of the bilateral agreement on trade in textiles between the EC and Belarus for 2009 there has been an elimination of 13 quotas that have been very little used in preceding years and an increase in quota level for category 115, flax yarns. The quota levels for 2009 are given in the Table at the end of this Notice. The quotas that have been eliminated cover categories 9, 12, 13, 16, 23, 33, 36, 37, 39, 50, 74, 83 & 90.

Where to Apply

4. 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

5. 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>

6. The quantity of goods stated on the application form must be expressed in the unit indicated in the table at the end of this Notice.

Export Licences

7. The application must be supported by the original export licence. The export licence designates a Member State of the EC as the country of destination. However, ILB can accept export licences designated for any Member State.

Validity of Import Licences

8. The import licences will be valid for 6 months from the date of issue. Extensions may be granted on request.

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 contact 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.

Information on Quota Utilisation

11. 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

12. Goods which are intended to be re-exported outside of the EC 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

13. 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.

Enquiries

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

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

Table

Quantitative Limits for Textiles Originating in Belarus for 2009

Category	Unit	Quota
1	kgs	1,586,000
2	kgs	6,643,000
3	kgs	242,000
4	pieces	1,839,000
5	pieces	1,105,000
6	pieces	1,705,000
7	pieces	1,377,000
8	pieces	1,160,000
15	pieces	1,726,000
20	kgs	329,000
21	pieces	930,000
22	kgs	524,000
24	pieces	844,000
26 + 27	pieces	1,117,000
27 (see above)		
29	pieces	468,000
67	kgs	359,000
73	pieces	329,000
115	kgs	420,000
117	kgs	2,312,000
118	kgs	471,000