

TIPS FOR APPAREL & TEXTILE IMPORTERS:

Customs and Textile Enforcement

In some ports, Customs is detaining imports of apparel at the port of entry until country of origin can be substantiated. The crackdown on country of origin verification (*read, Enforced Compliance*) could force an Importer to hire an attorney and have dozens of documents translated into English. Per Paul Wegener, President of M.G. Maher, "if you do it right, you can lose up to four weeks".

Customs offers the following guidelines to help textile and apparel importers minimize delays:

- Sufficient records to establish the country of origin.
- Time line of production steps and substantiating records. Including but not limited to:
 - ✓ data on raw materials
 - ✓ cutting productions
 - ✓ subcontracting
 - ✓ and actual quantities of the articles covered by the entry.
- Documents should be translated and understandable, in English.
- A list of production machinery used in the production of the articles.
- Documentation of the number of workers used to produce the articles.
- Factory contract work out to another garment factory must be documented.

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