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COMMERCIAL AVAILABILITY REQUEST

- - PUBLIC VERSION - -

February 20, 2013

Ms. Kim Glas
Chair, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements
Office of Textiles and Apparel, Room H3100, U.S. Department of Commerce
14th and Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Commercial Availability Request Under Section 203(o)(4) of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act: Certain Piece Dyed Cotton/Polyester Three Thread Fleece Fabrics

Pursuant to Section 203(o)(4) of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (“CAFTA-DR”) Implementation Act and the Modified Final Procedures set forth in 73 Fed. Reg. 53200 (September 15, 2008) (“Final Procedures”), Garan Manufacturing, Corp. (Garan) respectfully requests that the fabric described herein be added to the list in Annex 3.25 of CAFTA-DR in an unrestricted quantity.

The fabric is not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner from a supplier in the CAFTA-DR countries. Garan made this determination after a thorough exploration of the market in CAFTA-DR countries, and through detailed engagements with potential suppliers in attempts to secure the fabric. It is following a good faith effort to secure the fabric that Garan submits this commercial availability request.

I. Detailed Product Description

The subject fabric is a cotton/polyester 21 gauge three thread fleece and will be used for the manufacture of children’s playwear.

ATTRIBUTE¹	METRIC	ENGLISH
Overall fiber content	Cotton 57-63/Poly 43-37%	
Gauge	21	
Face Yarn – Fiber content	57% - 63% combed cotton/37% - 43% polyester, ring spun	
Face Yarn – yarn size	47.4/1 – 57.6/1 metric	28/1 – 34/1
Tie yarn – Fiber content	100% polyester	
Tie Yarn – Yarn size	191.5 – 157.9 metric/48 filament	47-57 denier 48 filament
Fleece Yarn – Fiber content	72%-78% carded cotton 22% - 28% polyester	
Fleece Yarn – Yarn size	18.6/1 – 28.8/1 metric	11/1 – 17/1
Fabric Weight	233.9 – 267.8 g/sqm	6.9 – 7.8 oz./sqyd
Fabric width	152.4 cm cuttable or greater, open width	60” cuttable or greater, open width
Finish	Single fiber piece dyed with reactive dyestuff for cotton or disperse dye stuff for polyester	
Performance Criteria	1. Torque must not exceed 4% (must meet AATCC 179)	
	2. Vertical and horizontal shrinkage must be under 5%	
	3. Must meet a class-1 flammability rating	
HTS#	6001.21	

Quantity:

Garan requires 914,800 linear meters (1,000,000 linear yards) per year delivered in an eight week period.

¹ The attributes listed for yarn size relate to the size of the yarn prior to knitting. The measurements for fabric construction and weight relate to the fabric prior to garment production. Some variations may occur in these measurements as a result of the manufacturing processes.

II. Due Diligence

The potential suppliers were identified through (1) Garan’s experience doing business in the CAFTA-DR region, (2) through the 2009 Davison’s Textile Blue Book, (3) Textile World Buyer’s Guide, (4) through the contact mechanisms of U.S. and Central American textile and apparel trade associations and (5) previous short supply petitions. These efforts did not result in identifying any parties that were able to supply the subject fabric in a timely manner.

Engagement with Potential Suppliers:

Over the course of due diligence, several potential suppliers expressed some initial interest in supplying the fabrics to Garan. After detailed discussions, however, none of these companies were able to produce the subject fabric in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

One company, Elcatex, proposed providing an alternative fabric using different yarns and weighing between 7.9 – 8.1 ounces. Given industry tolerances of +/-5%, which Elcatex noted in its communications, a target weight of 8.1 ounces could allow for a fabric weighing as much as 8.5 ounces. A fabric of this weight would be well outside of the stated parameters (6.9 – 7.8 ounces) and considerably heavier than the target weight of 7.37 ounces.

Another company, Woongchun, proposed making an 18 gauge fabric.

In each case, Garan explained to the companies that their proposed fabrics were not substitutable for the subject merchandise. These points are clarified in Section III, below.

Record of Communications:

The following information sets forth the firms and associations that were contacted with regard to whether they, or their members, could supply the fabric described in this Request. Confirmations of the contacts are provided within Appendix I of the confidential version of this Request. All communications were conducted via e-mail unless otherwise noted.

(1) Association: National Textile Association, NTA

Contact: David Trumbull, Director – Members Services

dtrumbull@nationaltextile.org

Address: 6 Beacon Street, Suite 1125, Boston, MA 02108

Phone: (617) 542-8220
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of Request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
January 24, 2013: Follow up message sent.
Sample Provided: No
Reply and Date: January 30, 2013: Association advised that it had posted the inquiry on its website.
No responses received from individual mills

(2) Association: National Council of Textile Organizations, NCTO

Contact: Mike Hubbard, Vice President: mhubbard@ncto.org
Address: P.O. Box 99 – Gastonia, NC 28053
Phone: (704) 824-3522
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of Request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
Sample Provided: No
Reply and Date: January 21, 2013: Association advised that it would check with its members and have them respond directly to Garan.
No responses received from individual mills

(3) Association: American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, AMTAC

Contact: Sarah Ormond, Director of International Trade:
sormand@amtacdc.org
Address: 910 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20006
Phone: (202) 452-0866
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
Sample Provided: No
January 24, 2013: Follow up message sent.
Reply and Date: No responses received from association or individual members.

(4) Association: Guatemala Apparel and Textile Association (VESTEX)

Address: 15 Ave. 14-72 Zona 13, 2do. Nivel
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Phone: 502-24108323
Contact: Luis Oscar Estrada, Manager
lestrada@apparel.com.gt
Karin de Leon, Executive Director
kdeleon@apparel.com.gt
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
Sample Provided: No
Reply and Date: January 22, 2013: Association inquired about certain facets of the request, which were supplied directly. Association advised that they were advising their members and would advise Garan if any member could produce the subject fabric.
No further replies received association.

(5) Association: Honduran Manufacturers Association

Address: Edificio Yde Canahuati 3er y 4to Piso, Avenida Circunvalacion, S.O., San Pedro Sula, Cortes, Honduras, C.A.
Phone: (504) 556-5526
Contact: Astrid Barnica, Client Services
servicioalcliente@ahm-honduras.com
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
Sample Provided: No
Reply and Date: January 21, 2013: Association forwarded inquiry to its members and advised them to contact Garan directly.
One Company, Woong Chung replied to the initial inquiry. Garan contacted them directly (see below).

(6) Association: Nicaraguan Textile & Apparel Manufacturers Association (ANITEC)

Address: Zona Franca "Las Mercedes" km 12 ½ Carretera Notre Managua Nicaragua
Phone: (505) 421-8984
Contact: Dean Garcia Foster, Executive Director

director@anitec.net
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
January 24, 2013: Follow up message sent.
Reply and Date: No responses received.

(7) Association: Camara de la Industria Textil y de la Confeccion de El Salvador (CAMTEX)

Address: Calle Liverpool y Calle Roma, edif. ASI. Col. Roma
San Salvador, El Salvador
Phone: (503) 2245-3540
Contact: Ingrid Burgos, Director
iburgos@camtex.com.sv
Edwin Zamora, President
Unitex_gg@telsal.net
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
Sample Provided: No
January 24, 2013: Follow up message sent.
Reply and Date: No responses received.

(8) Association: Costa Rican Chamber of Textiles (CATECO)

Address: Apartado 1512 – 1002 Pase de Estudiantes
San Jose, Costa Rica
Phone: (506) 220-2981
Contact: Maria Quirce, Director
cateco@racsa.co.cr
Annia Segura; Title Unknown
asegura@textilescr.com
Date Contacted: January 18, 2013
Nature of request: Inquiry regarding members' ability to supply subject fabric, and request for potential suppliers' contact information.
Sample Provided: No

Reply and Date: January 22, 2013: Association advised that they contacted their members and none were able to produce the subject fabric.
January 24, 2013: Follow up message sent.

(9) Company: Alamac American Knits

Address: 1885 Alamac Road; Lumberton, NC 28358

Phone: 910.618.2200

Contact: Ron Giacone, Vice President of Sales
ron.giacone@alamacusa.com

Date Contacted: November 21, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: November 29, 2012: Resent original inquiry.

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(10) Company: American Textile and Apparel, Inc.

Address: 5190 NW 167th Street, Suite 223, Hialeah, FL 33014

Phone: 305.620.5466

Contact: Luis Mejia, Executive Vice President
frontdesk@karims.com

Date Contacted: November 21, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: November 29, 2012: Resent original inquiry.

Additional Contact: January 19, 2013: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(11) Company: Antex Knitting Mills

Address: 3750 S. Broadway Pl. Los Angeles, CA

Phone: 323.233.4281

Contact: Anna MacMassey, Vice President of Merchandise and Design
annam@antexknitting.com

Bill Tenenblatt, President, bilt@mmtextiles.com,

Daniel Tenenblatt, Title unknown, daniel@mmtextiles.com

Date Contacted: November 21, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: Yes
Additional Contacts: November 21, 2012: Antex advised that they make fleece and requested telephone contact.
December 11, 2012: Garan provided revised specs and made arrangements for teleconference.
December 11, 2012; Mark Haney discussed fabrics with Ms. MacMassey. It was agreed that Garan would send samples to Antex and Antex would review, then revert with pricing. Thereafter, arrangements would be made to produce sample yardage.
January 2, 2013: Samples were sent to Antex.
January 4, 2013: Antex acknowledged receipt of samples.
January 7, 2013: Antex commented on fabric specs and inquired as to next steps.
January 8, 2013: Garan provided complete specifications and requested pricing per previous arrangements.
January 9, 2013: Antex advised that it was not able to source the different fiber yarns.
January 16, 2013: Garan advised that it could not accept alternative fiber yarns.
January 16, 2013: Antex advised that it could not make the subject fabric in the stated fiber blends.
February 12, 2013: Officials from Garan and Antex met to discuss a number of programs. During this meeting Antex advised that it was not in a position to pursue production of the subject fabric.
February 12, 2013: Garan sent follow up message regarding the meeting and requested confirmation that they were not in a position to pursue production of the subject fabric.
February 14, 2013: Antex advised that they were not in a position to pursue production of the subject fabric.

(12) Company: Caracol Knits

Address: Km 45 al sur de SPS frente a Ins. Bíblico Cristiano Eldea El Caracol, Protrerillos, Cortés, Honduras.
Phone: (504) 507-1200/02/03
Contact: Denise Castellano, General Manager

dcastellano@caracolknits.com
Date Contacted: November 21, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: November 29, 2012: Resent original inquiry.
Additional Contact: January 19, 2013: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(13) Company: Carolina Cotton Works

Address: 14 Commerce Drive, Gaffney, SC 29340

Phone: 864.488.2824

Contact: Bryan Ashby, Controller
bryan@carolinacotton.com

Date Contacted: November 23, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: Yes

Additional Communications:

November 23, 2012: Carolina requested a sample.

December 6, 2012: Sample sent.

December 10, 2012: Carolina stated they could make the fabric and inquired as to next steps. Carolina also requested a full width cut sample.

December 12, 2012: Additional sample sent. Garan suggested Carolina provide pricing and counter samples. Garan also provided revised specifications.

December 17, 2012: Garan requested an update.

December 17, 2012: Carolina requested teleconference.

December 18, 2012: Garan suggested times for teleconference; inquired as to receipt of second set of samples.

January 2, 2013: Mark Haney and Bryan Ashby discussed next steps to advance discussion. Additional teleconference for January 3, 2013 was arranged.

January 3, 2013: Teleconference between Bryan Ashby of Carolina, and Mark Haney and Anthony Raffa of Garan. Carolina advised that it

was not able to produce the fabrics in a timely manner and would not participate in the program.

February 8, 2013: Garan contacted Carolina and reiterated that Carolina was not able to participate in the program.

Carolina stated that they understand.

(14) Company: Clover Knits, Inc.

Address: 1075 Jackson Heights; Clover, SC 29710

Phone: 803.222.3021

Contact: Kevin McCarter, President
kevin@cloverknits.com

Date Contacted: November 23, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: November 30, 2012: Resent original inquiry.

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(15) Company: Cottonwise Textiles

Address: 16 y 17 Calle; San Pedro Sula, Honduras

Phone: 504.554.0942/1125

Contact: C. W. Kim, General Manager
cwkim@cottonwise.com

Date Contacted: November 23, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: November 30, 2012: Resent original inquiry.

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: December 6, 2012: Company advised that it does not produce fleece fabric.

(16) Company: Elcatex

Address: Carretera a Puerto Cortés, Costado Nor-Oeste de Zip Choloma

Choloma, Cortés, Honduras, Centro América

Phone: (504) 669-5157, (504) 669-5167

Contact: Jesus Canahuanti, General Manager
chuy@elcatex.com
Jose Carlos Segurado, Account Manager
jose.segurado@elcatex.com

Date Contacted: November 23, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: November 29, 2012: Elcatex responded with certain technical questions and proposed an alternative fabric, which contained different yarns, a different fiber content and a different weight.

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Garan advised that alternative fabric was not acceptable noting that the weight and tie yarn size were incorrect. Garan also provided revised specifications.

December 7, 2012: Elcatex advised that the issued was transferred to their product development team.

December 11, 2012: Garan provided additional clarification of revised specifications and requested an update.

December 12, 2012: Elcatex advised that it would need additional equipment to make the fabric as specified; was looking into sourcing the correct yarns and stated that it believed its proposed fabric weight was within tolerances. The stated fabric weight included allowable tolerances; Elcatex assumed that an additional 5% tolerance would be allowed, but this is not the case.

January 8, 2013: Garan requested an update regarding the status of obtaining the proper equipment and tie yarns and advised that the proposed weight was not within the tolerances.

January 10, 2013: Company advised that it was looking into the comments regarding fabric weight and the possibility of obtaining the necessary equipment to make the subject fabric. The company did not make reference to any efforts to source the appropriate tie yarn.

January 22, 2013: Company advised that it could not make the fabric in the required weight and was still looking into purchasing the required equipment. The company did not make reference to any efforts to source the appropriate tie yarn.

January 29, 2013: Company advised that it was still trying to determine feasibility of project including potential investment in new equipment and asked if Garan could accept a fabric outside of the stated weight parameters. The company did not make reference to any efforts to source the appropriate tie yarn.

February 1, 2013: Garan reiterated that the proposed weight was not acceptable and requested information on the investment plans and the amount of time required to begin producing the subject fabric.

February 1, 2013: Company stated that it was still analyzing the potential investment in new equipment and acknowledged that it could not meet the weight specification. Company also asked for comments. The company did not make reference to efforts to source the appropriate tie yarn.

February 1, 2013: Garan noted that there were several issues which needed to be resolved in order for Elcatex to produce the subject fabric: obtaining proper equipment, sourcing the appropriate tie yarns, and the fabric weight. Garan noted that there had been no movement on any of them for over six weeks.

February 1, 2013: Elcatex stated that it “could not meet the specific requirement”. The company did not make reference to its efforts to source the appropriate tie yarn or the necessary equipment.

February 8, 2013: Garan clarified that the target weight of the fabric was 7.3 ounces/square yard, with a tolerance of up to 7.8 ounces and explained why heavier fabrics would not be acceptable.

February 8, 2013: Elcatex replied that they had an interest in the program and noted that their proposed weight was not acceptable. They did not make any statements regarding the sourcing of the correct tie yarn.

February 15, 2013: Garan reiterated that the target weight was 7.3 ounces and the reasons heavier fabrics would not be substitutable. Garan also suggested exploring opportunities for later seasons.

February 15, 2013: Elcatex stated they would be interested in any future opportunities.

(17) Company: Grupo Imperial

Address: Calzada Roosevelt 34-21 Zona 11

Phone: 502.238.667700

Contact: Roberto Zaid,
textiles@imperialtex.com
Romeo Rodriguez, Manager
romeo.rodriguez@imperialtex.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(18) Company: Hilos Y Telas

Address: 34 Calle 7-42 Zona 11; Guatemala

Phone: 502.2423.7400

Contact: Ray Malouf, Title Unknown
ramalouf@hilosytelas.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(19) Company: Icitex

Address: 12 Calle "A" 2-37 Zona 3 de Mixco Colonia El Rosario; Guatemala

Phone: 502.342.0658

Contact: Guillermo Zaid, Sales Contact
ribbons@tejidospolitex.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(20) Company: Industria Textile (INDUTEX)

Address: 29 Calle 3-03 Zona 12, Guatemala

Phone: (502) 2204-5959
Contact: Federico Zimeri, Operations Manager
operaciones@toallasfaxel.com
Gustavo Guzman, Title Unknown
gustavo.indutex@gmail.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Reply and Date: Indutex advised that it only made up to 16 gauge fleece.

(21) Company: Industrias Continental

Address: Km 12, Carretera A
Tegucigalpa, 300 Mts., Al Sur De Pronorsa
Buffalo, Villaneuva
San Pedro Sula, 2197
Honduras
Phone: 504.574.8172
Contact: Roberto Diban Canahuati, Manager, 'rdibaninco@sigmanet.hn'
juancarlos@industriascontinental.com,
antonior@industriascontinental.com
Latter two email addresses were obtained from company website.
Actual identities of persons and their titles are not known.
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(22) Company: Jung Woo Textiles

Address: Km. 37.5 Carretera al Pacifico Palin Escuintla, Guatemala
Phone: 502.7838.9406
Contact: Ines Lee, Title Unknown
Guatemala@jungwootextile.com, rnilove@hanmail.net
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(23) Company: Liztex

Address: Km 30.5 Ruta al Pacifico Amatitlan, Guatemala

Phone: 502.6633.6550

Contact: Saul Mishan, Sales Manager

saul@liztex.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Reply and Date: November 27, 2012: Company advised that it did not make three thread fleece.

(24) Company: Megatextil's

Address: Km. 36 Carretera al Pacifico Lotificación Los Sauces Palín Escuintla, Guatemala

Phone: 502.6633.0549

Contact: Sung Deok Kim, Title Unknown

megatextiles@hanmail.net

Min Young Hong, Title Unknown

myhong@megatilsa.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(25) Company: MJ Soffe

Address: One Soffe Drive; Fayetteville, NC 28312

Phone: Unknown

Contact: customerservice@mjsoffe.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(26) Company: Monte Textile

Address: Km. 18.5 Carretera al Mayan Golf Club Villa Nueva, Guatemala

Phone: 502.6628.0800

Contact: Juan Carlos, Export Manager
Castanedajuancarlos@textisur.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: December 6, 2012: Monte advised that they do not make fleece.

(27) Company: Parktland

Address: 17 Calle 5-36 Zona 1, Guatemala

Phone: 502.2251.3539

Contact: Bryan Quan, General Manager
parktland@apparel.com.gt, info@parktland.com

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No

Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.

Reply and Date: No reply received.

(28) Company: Pettenati Centro America S.A. de C.V.

Address: KM 42 Carretera a Santa Ana, Coatepeque, Santa Aria El Salvador

Phone: Unknown

Contact: Jose Denys, General Director
jdenys@pettenati.com.sv
Francesco Pilenga, Title Unknown
fpilenga@pettenati.com.sv

Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(29) Company: RLA Manufacturing

Address: Unknown
Phone: 504.606.4800
Contact: Philip Holloway, Title Unknown
garciaedy@russellcorp.com, rodriguezerik@russellcorp.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(30) Company: Rosazu

Address: Lote 55 Monte Maria El Pajon Santa Catarina Pinula, Guatemala
Phone: 502.6634.1144-43
Contact: Francisco Goenz, General Manager
francisco.goenz@imerlet.com
Luis Guzman, Title Unknown
luis.guzman@imerlet.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(31) Company: Sky Textile Honduras

Address: ZIP Río Blanco, San Pedro Sula, Cortés, Honduras
Phone: 504.551.4556
Contact: Ken Tai, Title Unknown
ken_tai@oceanskyintl.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012

Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(32) Company: Supratextiles

Address: 3ª. Calle 7-53 A Zona 2 San Jose Villa Nueva, Guatemala
Phone: (502) 66298080, 66298079, 66299239
Contact: Raul Ibarguen Garcia-Salas, Title Unknown
rigs@itelgua.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(33) Company: Textilera Santa Emilia

Address: Km. 19.5 Carretera a San Jose Pinula, Guatemala
Phone: (502) 66342508, 66346428, 66346429
Contact: Alberto Zimeri Gandara, Sales Contact
textiles@textilesperfecta.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(34) Company: Textiles Capuano/Textiles Catania

Address: 1 Avenida 3-86 Zona 1 Boca del Monte, Guatemala
Phone: (502) 24480566-67
Contact: Alejandro Ortega, Title Unknown
aob@textilescapuano.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(35) Company: Textiles Del Pacifico

Address: 13 Avenida 32-53 Zona 13, Colonia Santa Fe, Guatemala
Phone: (502) 23332822, 23332812
Contact: Rene Castaneda, Title Unknown
rcastaneda@texpasa.com, aguerra@texpasa.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(36) Company: Textufil, S.A. de C.V.

Address: 12 Avenida Sur Contiguo a Industrias Caribe, Soyapango, San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Phone: (503) 2277.0066
Contact: Hector Rico, Title Unknown
hector@textufil.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(37) Company: Volunteer Knit Apparel

Address: 403 Old Knoxville Highway; New Tazewell, TN 37825
Phone: Unknown
Contact: Nora Wolsenbarger, Office Manager
nora@volknit.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.

Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(38) Company: Pro Dept El Salvador, S.A. de C.V

Address: Edif #18 Calle Tazumal, Zona Franca San Bartolo, San Salvador, El Salvador
Phone: Unknown
Contact: Mario Zavaleta, Manager
mario@prodept.com
Date Contacted: November 27, 2012
Nature of Request: Inquiry to ability to supply subject fabric.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: December 5, 2012: Resent original inquiry, with modifications to certain specifications.
Reply and Date: No reply received.

(39) Company: Woongchun Honduras, S.A.

Address: Unknown
Phone: (504) 672-1800
Contact: JT Kim, Marketing and Planning
jtkim@woongchun.com
Sunny Lee, Marketing Department
sunnylee@woongchun.com
Date Contacted: January 21, 2013
Nature of Request: Honduran Manufacturers Association forwarded initial inquiry to Woongchun.
Sample Provided: No
Additional Contact: January 23, 2013: Company advised Garan that it could produce the subject fabric.
January 24, 2013: Company requested conference call.
January 24, 2013: Sunny Lee of Woongchun and Mark Haney discussed possible production of the subject fabric. Mr. Lee advised that it could not obtain the tie yarns and that it only had 18 gauge knitting machines.

January 25, 2013: Mr. Lee acknowledged the different gauge machinery and proposed supplying alternative fabrics with different yarns and of a different gauge.

February 8, 2013: Anthony Raffa of Garan contacted Mr. Lee directly and requested verification that Woonchung did not have 18 gauge machinery.

February 8, 2013: Mr. Lee confirmed that Woonchung did not have 21 gauge machinery and that none of its subcontractors had 21 gauge machinery.

Feb 15, 2013 – Anthony Raffa contacted Mr. JT Kim, President of Woong Chun directly and he confirmed they did not have the proper equipment to do the program at this time.

February 15, 2013: Mr. Lee reiterated that they did not have 21 gauge machinery.

As a result of the above inquiries and the thorough engagement and good faith efforts to procure the subject fabric, SS&A and Garan do not believe that the subject fabric is commercially available in the CAFTA-DR region in a timely manner and we request that it be added to Annex 3.25.

III. Substitutable Products

The subject fabric, as stated in this Request, provides specifications which were devised to meet the particular demands of Garan's customers, including, but not limited to: look, hand, feel, drape, torque, shrinkage, stretch, comfort, warmth, and flammability. Garan is not aware of any fabrics made outside of the stated parameters which would be substitutable for the subject fabric. Fleece other than three thread fleece, fleece not made on 21 gauge machines, or fleece of any other weight or fiber content would not permit Garan to continue to service its customers.

The subject fabrics will be used in the production of children's playwear. The correct weight is very important on the finished product for the child's comfort and proper look and performance of the garments. Heavier fabrics could restrict the movements of a child wearing the finished garment. Further, Garan has learned from direct contact with consumers in its focus groups that purchasers of children's fleece playwear differentiate between fleece products made from different weight fabrics and prefer garments made from lighter weight fabrics. The finished garments will be worn by children for indoor activities.

Heavier fleece tends to be too warm and bulky for these activities. In addition, the garments are marketed nationwide. Garments made from heavier weight fabrics are too heavy and warm for warm weather regions which do a majority of the sales.

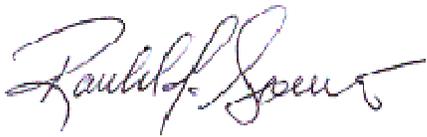
Garan previously made these garments from 285 gram fabric (8.4 oz.). In response to comments from its customers described above, Garan switched to a 250 gram (7.37 oz.) fabric. Thus, a fabric weighing considerably more than 7.37 ounces (i.e. one weighing more than 7.8 ounces) is not substitutable for the subject fabrics.

Further, it is important to have 21 gauge fabrics for the clean, even and fine knit appearance of the fabric face. Fabrics made from 21 gauge fleece have more needles per inch and therefore has a finer gauge and will have a smoother, cleaner, more even appearance on the fabric face. These fabrics will also have a tighter appearance since the wales are closer together (less space between the needles) than the 18 gauge knit. The 18 gauge face has a more ruff appearance. Finally, 21 gauge fleece fabrics help better control shrinkage because the needles are closer together than on 18 gauge.

Closing

If you have any questions or require further information with regard to this request, please contact Megan Costello at (202) 393-4481, or mcostello@ssa-dc.com.

Sincerely,



Ron Sorini
Co-Founder & Principal