

(“Response”) must be submitted by August 26, 2024, and any Rebuttal to a Response (“Rebuttal”) must be submitted by August 30, 2024, in accordance with sections 6 and 7 of CITA’s Procedures. No interested entity submitted a Response to the Request advising CITA of its objection to the Request with an offer to supply the subject product in accordance with CITA’s Procedures.

In accordance with section 203(o)(4)(C) of the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act, and section 8(c)(2) of CITA’s Procedures, as no interested entity submitted a Response objecting to the Request and providing an offer to supply the subject product in accordance with CITA’s Procedures, CITA has determined to add the specified fabric to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR.

The subject product has been added to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement in unrestricted quantities. A revised list has been posted on the dedicated website for CAFTA–DR Commercial Availability proceedings, at <https://otexaprod.trade.gov/otexacapublicsite/shortsupply/cafta>.

Specifications: Certain Two-Way Stretch Woven Polyester, Rayon, Spandex Fabric

HTS: 5515.11.00.

Fiber Content: 50 to 77 percent polyester; 18 to 47 percent rayon; 3 to 8 percent spandex (for fabrics comprising single yarns in the warp, the polyester content may be higher).

Staple Length (where applicable): 4.44 to 6.99 centimeters (1.75 to 2.75 inches).

Note: The staple length designation 1.75”–2.75” inches describes a range of long staple fiber in its raw grieger condition before spinning, weaving, dyeing and finishing of the fabric. It is intended as a specification to be followed by the mill in sourcing long staple fiber used to produce the yarn and fabric. Spinning, weaving, dyeing and finishing alter the characteristic of the staple fiber as it appears in the finished fabric. This specification therefore includes staple appearing in the finished fabric as shorter than 1.75” inches provided that the shorter appearance occurs solely as the result of such processes.

Yarn (Three Configurations)

#1: Warp and filling: plied polyester/rayon staple of various yarn sizes, combined with spandex filament of various deniers.

#2: Warp and filling 34/1 (English 20/1) or finer polyester/rayon staple, combined with spandex filament of various deniers.

#3: Warp: 34/1 (English 20/1) or finer polyester/rayon staple, or plied

polyester/rayon staple of various yarn sizes, combined with spandex filament of various deniers;

Filling: singles or plied polyester filament of various yarn sizes, combined with spandex filament of various deniers.

Note: The designation “34/1 (English 20/1) or finer” describes a range of yarn specifications for yarn in its greige condition before dyeing and finishing of the yarn (if applicable) and before weaving, dyeing and finishing of the fabric. It is intended as a specification to be followed by the mill in sourcing yarn used to produce the fabric. Dyeing, finishing and weaving can alter the characteristic of the yarn as it appears in the finished fabric. This specification therefore includes yarns appearing in the finished fabric as coarser than 34/1 (English 20/1) provided that the coarser appearance occurs solely as the result of such processes.

Thread Count: 23 to 51 warp ends by 16 to 39 filling picks per centimeter (60 to 130 warp ends by 40 to 100 filling picks per inch).

Weave Type: Various (including plain and twill).

Weight:

Fabrics comprising single yarns in the warp—200 to 290 grams per square meter (5.9 to 8.6 ounces per square yard).

Fabrics comprising plied yarns in the warp—200 to 310 grams per square meter (5.9 to 9.1 ounces per square yard).

Width: 121 to 165 centimeters (English 48 to 65 inches).

Finish: Dyed and of yarns of different colors.

Megan Crowe,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 2024–21679 Filed 9–20–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Request for Information on Direct and Indirect Labor

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (operating as the U.S. AbilityOne Commission (Commission)) is seeking information on proposed definitions of direct labor and categories of indirect labor; and ideas about categorizing employment tasks as direct labor or indirect labor on Federal

contracts for the purposes of compliance with the Javits-Wagner-O’Day (JWOD) Act (41 U.S.C. Chapter 85). The information provided in response to this request for information (RFI) will inform the Commission as it seeks to modernize the AbilityOne Program.

DATES: Comments must be received by October 22, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Electronic Submission of Comments. Please submit any comments electronically through <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for submitting comments. To locate the RFI, search for Docket No. CPPBSD–2024–0010.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document, as well as the comments or other documents in the public rulemaking record for this RFI, in an alternative accessible format by contacting the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section of this document.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at www.govinfo.gov. You may also access Commission documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cassandra Assefa, Regulatory and Policy Attorney, Office of General Counsel, Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024; telephone: (202) 430–9886; email: cassefa@abilityone.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In 1938, the legislation that became the JWOD Act was signed to create jobs for blind individuals. In 1971, the Act was amended to expand the JWOD Program’s scope to include employing individuals with severe disabilities.¹ In 2006, the JWOD Program was renamed the AbilityOne Program by the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. In 2011, the Committee began operating as the U.S. AbilityOne Commission.

The JWOD Act continues to serve as an employment catalyst by making it mandatory for Federal agencies to procure certain products and services from NPAs employing individuals who are blind or have significant disabilities. The Commission votes to place on a

¹ 41 U.S.C. Chapter 85, Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

Procurement List suitable products and services that government agencies must then procure from a qualified nonprofit agency (NPA). Federal agencies do not have to follow the normal government competitive procedures when acquiring Procurement List items from an authorized NPA, making it more efficient for both the Federal agencies and the qualified NPA.²

For an NPA to be eligible to provide goods or services on the Procurement List, it must be authorized by the Commission as qualified to serve as an authorized source in the program.

II. The Direct Labor Hour Ratio Mandate

To serve as an authorized source, an NPA must, at a minimum, satisfy the statutory conditions described at 42 U.S.C. 8501, paragraphs 6 and 7. Of note, part (C) of both paragraphs require that 75 percent of the direct labor hours required to produce or provide products or services must be performed by individuals who are blind or significantly disabled.

In calculating the 75 percent direct labor hour ratio, an NPA is required to count not only the DLH performed in support of Procurement List items, but pursuant to the statute, all direct labor performed by every individual employed by the NPA.³ The statute defined direct labor as all work required to prepare, process, and pack a product, or work that directly relates to the performance of the service. The statute specifically excludes supervision, administration, inspection, or shipping as direct labor.

This means that when calculating the 75 percent direct labor hour ratio, an NPA excludes “indirect labor” hours—*i.e.*, “Work that supports the manufacturing process or delivery of services but does not directly produce or add value to the products or services sold to a customer. This includes supervision, administration, inspection, and shipping.”⁴ Historically, these exclusions were perceived as helpful because they reduce the number of hours an NPA must count toward the 75% direct labor hour ratio. However, when an employee who is blind or has a significant disability moves from a direct labor hour position to an indirect labor hour position, the NPA cannot count that employee’s indirect labor hours toward the 75 percent direct labor

hour ratio—a situation that potentially creates a disincentive for the NPA to promote that employee to a supervisory or administrative position.

The Commission believes that many “indirect labor” task or positions could serve as an opportunity to promote employee career advancement. However, there is little incentive for an NPA to create a framework that actively encourages direct labor hour employees to move to indirect labor hour positions if doing so compromises the NPA’s ability to remain in the Program by impeding its ability to meet the Program’s direct labor hour ratio requirement.

III. Request for Information

As noted above, section 8501, paragraphs 6 and 7 of the JWOD Act list the qualifications for an NPA to serve as an authorized source for a product or service on the Procurement List. The Commission’s interpretation of the statutory language is promulgated in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at Title 41, Chapter 51. More specifically, the CFR adopts the JWOD Act’s 75 percent direct labor hour ratio requirement and adds a list of additional qualifications under Part 51–4. In the CFR at Part 51–1.3, the Commission does not elaborate on the statutory direct labor hour ratio requirement or the definition of direct labor.

Commission policies are generally derived from Commission regulations grounded in statute. As such, the authority to deviate from the 75 percent direct labor hour ratio requirement, or to redefine what counts as direct labor, is expressly limited by statute. Notwithstanding these limitations, the Commission is exploring ways to leverage its regulatory and sub-regulatory authority to encourage employment opportunities that promote career mobility without conflicting with the JWOD Act. This RFI is designed to collect information for that purpose, through the questions below.

IV. Questions

(1) How could direct labor be defined to expand the types of tasks or positions that can be counted as direct labor without conflicting with the definition in the JWOD Act? The purpose of this change would include increasing the number of direct labor hours that an NPA could count toward meeting the direct labor hour ratio requirement.

(2) In what ways could indirect labor categories (*e.g.*, supervision, administration, inspection, or shipping) be defined to maximize employee career development without adversely

impacting the ratio requirement, and without a statutory change?

(3) What types of jobs or tasks traditionally categorized as “indirect labor” in accordance with the JWOD Act fall outside of “supervision, administration, inspection, or shipping”?

(4) With respect to meeting the direct labor hour ratio requirement, describe any challenges or successes associated with facilitating or supporting AbilityOne employees’ mobility into jobs outside the Program; particularly, whether such mobility causes challenges with ratio compliance, and if applicable, the steps taken to mitigate such challenges.

Michael R. Jurkowski,

Director, Business Operations.

[FR Doc. 2024–21709 Filed 9–20–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353–01–P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: Wednesday, September 25, 2024—10 a.m.

PLACE: Meeting will be held remotely and in person at 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland, Room 420.

STATUS: Commission Meeting—Closed to the Public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Meeting Matter: Briefing Matter.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Alberta E. Mills, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814, 301–504–7479 (Office) or 240–863–8938 (Cell).

Dated: September 18, 2024.

Alberta Mills,

Commission Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–21741 Filed 9–19–24; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 6355–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 23–28]

Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Arms sales notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD is publishing the unclassified text of an arms sales notification.

² Federal Acquisition Regulation 8.7, Acquisition From Nonprofit Agencies Employing People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

³ 41 U.S.C. 8501(6)(C) and (7)(C).

⁴ U.S. AbilityOne Commission Policy 51.404, Direct Labor Hour Ratio Requirements, effective October 1, 2024.