

ADDITIONAL LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

Products for which *Normas Oficiales Mexicanas (NOMs)*, official Mexican standards, have been issued, must be tested in Mexico and a compliance certificate must be obtained from the *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI), Dirección General de Normas*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development, or from an agency accredited by them. This certificate must accompany the goods when they are imported.

Some of the *NOMs* include special labelling requirements and these are now enforced at the border. As of January 13, 1995, all products subject to *NOMs* must show the *NOM* sign on the product, in a visible place, either on a label, sticker or decal. This means that the onus is on the exporter to determine the requirements and ensure that the product is properly labelled before it leaves Canada. A list of products for which *NOMs* have been issued, specified by Mexican tariff classification number, is provided in Appendix A. Exporters of these products should obtain a copy of the *NOM* for each relevant product to learn about any special labelling regulations.

SOME PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Mexico's product labelling regulations contain special treatment for textile and leather products, electrical and electronic products and refrigerators that differ from the general and *NOM*-based regulations described above. In addition, an emergency *NOM* covering all imported meat was issued for 6 months beginning in June 1994, and subsequently extended to June 1995.

TEXTILES, CLOTHING AND LEATHER

Textiles, clothing and accessories, *NOM-004-SCFI-1993*, and leather, shoes and leather products, *NOM-020-SCFI-1993*, must meet specific labelling requirements specified in the labelling decree (see box) which are enforced at the border. But they do not have to be accompanied by a certificate of compliance, even though they are subject to *NOMs*. For these products, labels must be affixed to the product and not just to the packaging.

ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS

In a letter of clarification issued March 10, 1994, the *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI)*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development, stated that electronic and electrical products and household appliances are not subject to the general requirement that product labels contain instructions for use and care. The reason is that such products are already subject to *NOM-024-SCFI-1993*, which requires instructions and warranties to be provided at the point of sale.

MINIMUM LABELLING REQUIREMENTS FOR LEATHER PRODUCTS, NOM-020-SCFI-1993

- Name of exporter
- Materials (general or specific definition and, if applicable, finishing)
- Country of origin
- Name and address of importer
- Federal Taxation Registration number of the importer and/or registration number of the chamber of commerce to which he belongs

Source: Government of Canada translation of Article Four (II) of the March 7 Labelling Decree from the *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI)*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development.