

Products for which *NOMs* have been issued must be tested in Mexico and a certificate of compliance must be obtained from the *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI)*, *Dirección General de Normas*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development, Bureau of Standards, or from an agency accredited by them. This certificate must accompany the goods when they are imported. The Canadian exporter must obtain the appropriate documentation from the importer. The certificate number must be included on a label, which includes the *NOM* logo, affixed to each item.

Textile and leather products are a special case. Under the March 1994 Executive Decree, they are exempted from the certification requirements even though they are covered by *NOMs*. They must comply with special labelling rules specified in the decree, which include a requirement that a *NOM* logo appear on the label.

Regardless of the product involved, the following classes of goods are exempted from the requirement for certificates of compliance:

- goods imported for the purpose of obtaining a *NOM* certification;
- goods included in personal, accompanied baggage;
- personal items sent by a Mexican resident;
- goods imported by scientific or educational institutions;
- samples with no commercial value;
- temporary imports for repair or in-bond assembly;
- bulk goods;
- capital and intermediate goods; and
- certain highly-specialized goods in small quantities.

Mexican product standards are listed in a number of sources, but new standards are constantly in development and no list can be definitive. In most cases, the exporter will need assistance from its Mexican agent or distributor to find out if standards apply, and to submit the product for testing in Mexico if they do. Information on the application of *NOMs* to specific products is available from the *Instituto Mexicano de Normalización y Certificación (IMENOC)*, Mexican Institute of Standards and Certification, at the address given in the Contacts section of this manual.