



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations



TEXTILE PROGRAM

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Trade Enforcement Unit manages the textile program. The textile program focuses on investigations of criminal and civil violations of customs laws relating to textiles importations. The violations are executed through a variety of fraudulent schemes and practices including false invoicing, false claims of country of origin, false markings/labeling, misclassification, false description, and smuggling.



HSI Seized Merchandise

This effort is in support of the overall goal of HSI and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to ensure that inadmissible goods do not enter the U.S. commerce, that duties are not evaded, and that there is compliance with applicable laws.

CBP is responsible for enforcing the legal requirements of trade agreements, and of other U.S. laws applicable to the textile industry. It is HSI's responsibility to conduct investigations of significant criminal and civil violations of these laws. Successful investigations produce significant seizures, civil penalties and/or criminal prosecutions.



HSI Seized Clothing

HSI, in coordination with CBP, is responsible for coordinating Textile Production Verification Team (TPVT) visits. Since 1987, these teams have been deployed to inspect foreign textile factories to verify production of textiles that have been exported to the United States under free trade agreements and legislated trade programs.

The TPVTs are comprised of HSI special agents and CBP import specialists who are trained to verify production and manufacturing capabilities of the factories visited.

