

call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The current limits for Categories 434 and 443 are being adjusted for swing and carryforward.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 64 FR 71982, published on December 22, 1999). Also see 64 FR 71115, published on December 20, 1999.

Richard B. Steinkamp,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

August 4, 2000.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on December 14, 1999, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain wool textile products, produced or manufactured in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 2000 and extending through December 31, 2000.

Effective on August 9, 2000, you are directed to adjust the current limits for the following categories, as provided for in the agreement between the Governments of the United States and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia dated November 7, 1997:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹
434	11,764 dozen.
443	185,811 numbers.

¹ The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1999.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,
Richard B. Steinkamp,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.
[FR Doc. 00-20141 Filed 8-8-00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

[CPSC Docket No. 00-C0011]

In the Matter of Royal Sovereign Corp., a Corporation; Settlement Agreement and Order

1. This Settlement Agreement and Order between Royal Sovereign Corporation (“Royal Sovereign”), a New Jersey corporation, and the staff of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (“the CPSC”), pursuant to 16 CFR 1118.20 of the Commission’s Procedures for Investigations, Inspections, and Inquiries under the Consumer Product Safety Act (“CPSA”), reflects a compromise resolution of the matter described herein, entered without a hearing or determination of issues of law and fact.

I. The Parties

2. The staff is the staff of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, an independent federal regulatory agency responsible for the enforcement of the Consumer Product Safety Act. 15 U.S.C. 2051-2084.

3. Royal Sovereign is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey. Its principal corporate offices are located at 100 West Sheffield Ave., Englewood, NJ 07631. Royal Sovereign is an importer and distributor of small electronic appliances, including portable ceramic heaters.

II. Staff Allegations

4. Section 15(b) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2064(b) requires a manufacturer of a consumer product who, *inter alia*, obtains information that reasonably supports the conclusion that the product contains a defect which could create a substantial product hazard or creates an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death, to immediately inform the Commission of the defect or risk.

5. Between 1992 and 1996, Royal Sovereign imported and distributed within the United States approximately 39,300 model RST1200 oscillating ceramic portable heaters (“RST 1200 heaters”). The portable heaters are “consumer products” and Royal Sovereign is a “distributor” of “consumer products” that are

“distributed in commerce” as those terms are defined in sections 3(a)(1), (4), (11) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2052(a)(1), (4), (11).

6. The RST 1200 heaters are defective because the mechanism that rotates the heater side-to-side can wear through the insulation of electrical wiring inside the heater’s base. In addition, some of the connections between the electrical wires and other components inside the heater are faulty. Either of these conditions can cause a fire.

7. Between 1994 and 1997, Royal Sovereign received at least thirteen reports of fires involving RST 1200 heaters. The fires resulted in property damage claims in excess of \$70,000.

8. On October 24, 1995, CPSC field investigator William Robinson inspected the facilities of Royal Sovereign, and interviewed firm officials, seeking information about a fire involving an RST 1200 heater that had been reported to the Commission by the consumer. Mr. Robinson shared the staff’s engineering evaluation of the unit involved in the fire, which concluded that faulty crimp connections may have led to arcing and overheating within the unit that caused ignition of the plastic housing. Firm officials informed Mr. Robinson at that time that they believed the RST 1200 heater involved in the fire had been tampered with, and that the faulty crimps were not of Royal Sovereign’s manufacture.

9. Royal Sovereign also informed Mr. Robinson on October 24, 1995, that Royal Sovereign had received reports of two additional fires involving RST 1200 heaters. Firm officials stated that one of those fires resulted from the heater being placed too close to combustibles, and that they believed the other fire had been deliberately set. Mr. Robinson was told that the other complaints the firm had received concerning the RST 1200 related to mechanical failures or product dissatisfaction.

10. At the conclusion of his inspection, Mr. Robinson left with Royal Sovereign copies of the CPSC statutes and regulations setting forth a distributor’s obligations to report potential safety hazards to the Commission.

11. In 1996, Royal Sovereign undertook an “upgrade” program, pursuant to which it contacted those consumers of RST 1200 heaters from whom the firm had received warranty cards and informed them that they could return their heaters for “reconfiguration to 1996 standards.” The “upgrade” involved opening the units to evaluate the crimp connections and the installation of a sleeve over the power cord, which entered the unit in

such a way as to rub up against an internal metal disc that provided the oscillating motion for the unit. The addition of the protective sleeve guarded against abrasion of the cord. Abrasion of the cord could result in the exposure of current-carrying wires, which, in turn, could result in arcing and fire. Royal Sovereign did not notify the staff to its upgrade program.

12. Between October 1995 and April 1997, Royal Sovereign became aware of ten additional fires involving RST 1200 heaters.

13. Royal Sovereign did not report the additional incidents of fire involving RST 1200 heaters to the Commission.

14. In October 1997, the staff executed an administrative search warrant on the facilities of Royal Sovereign and recovered several burned units of RST 1200 heaters, as well as a number of additional returned units exhibiting indicia of fire. The staff also collected new samples of RST 1200 heaters for evaluation. In addition, the staff collected documentation of fire incidents involving RST 1200 heaters, including insurance claim documentation, internal tracking records, and correspondence with consumers. Finally, the staff collected over 100 consumer complaints noting incidents of sparking, smoking, or flaming RST 1200 heaters.

15. The staff's evaluation of the returned units, as well as the new samples, indicated that the units utilized crimp connections similar to those identified as potentially hazardous by the staff in 1995. The staff also noted evidence of abrasion of the power cords in the burned units.

16. Although Royal Sovereign had obtained sufficient information to reasonably support the conclusion that the RST 1200 heaters contained a defect which could create a substantial product hazard, or created an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death, it failed to report such information to the Commission, as required by section 15(b) of the CPSA. This is a violation of section 19(a)(4) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2068(a)(4).

17. Royal Sovereign's failure to report to the Commission, as required by section 15(b) of the CSA, was committed "knowingly," as that term is defined in section 20(d) of the CPSA, and Respondent is subject to civil penalties under section 20 of the CPSA.

III. Response of Royal Sovereign

18. Royal Sovereign denies it violated the CPSA. Royal Sovereign also denies that the RST 1200 heaters contain a defect which could create a substantial product hazard, or create an

unreasonable risk of injury or death. Royal Sovereign also denies that the RST 1200 heaters caused any of the fires referred to in this document, or could cause a fire. Royal Sovereign also denies that it violated the reporting requirements of the CPSA.

IV. Agreement of the Parties

19. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2051-2084.

20. Royal Sovereign agrees to pay to the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of \$20,000, to be paid in four equal installments of \$5,000. The first payment shall become due immediately upon the CPSC's final acceptance of the attached Order. Subsequent payments shall be made thirty (30), sixty (60), and ninety (90) days after that date.

21. Respondent knowingly, voluntarily and completely waives any rights it may have (1) to an administrative or judicial hearing, (2) to judicial review or other challenge or contest of the validity of the Commission's Order, (3) to a determination by the Commission as to whether Respondent failed to comply with section 15(b) of the CPSA, as alleged, (4) to a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law, and (5) to any claims under the Equal Access to Justice Act.

22. This Settlement Agreement and Order shall not be deemed or construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Royal Sovereign or as evidence: (a) Of any violation of law or regulation by Royal Sovereign; (b) of other wrongdoing by Royal Sovereign; (c) that RST 1200 heaters are defective, create a substantial product hazard, or are unreasonably dangerous; or (d) of the truth of any claims or other matters alleged or otherwise stated by the CPSC or any other person either against Royal Sovereign or with respect to RST 1200 heaters.

23. Upon provisional acceptance of this Settlement Agreement and Order by the Commission, this Settlement Agreement and Order shall be placed on the public record and shall be published in the **Federal Register** in accordance with the procedures set forth in 16 CFR 1118.20(e). If the Commission does not receive any written request not to accept the Settlement Agreement and Order within 15 days, the Settlement Agreement and Order shall be deemed finally accepted on the 16th day after the date it is published in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 16 CFR 1118.20(f).

24. This Settlement Agreement and Order becomes effective upon its final

acceptance by the Commission and service upon Respondent.

25. The Commission may publicize the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Order.

26. The provisions of this Settlement Agreement and Order shall apply to Respondent, its successors and assigns, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other business entity, or through any agency, device or instrumentality.

27. Royal Sovereign agrees to immediately inform the Commission if it learns of any additional incidents involving the RST 1200 heaters, or any additional information regarding the alleged defect and hazard identified in paragraph six, herein.

28. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement and Order shall be construed to preclude the Commission from taking such other and further actions as the Commission deems necessary to protect the public health and safety and to comply with the CPSA.

29. This Settlement Agreement may be used in interpreting the Order. Agreements, understandings, representations, or interpretations made outside of this Settlement Agreement and Order may not be used to vary or contradict its terms.

Dated: May 16, 2000.

Ta K. Lin,

Royal Sovereign Corporation.

Dated: May 10, 2000.

Alan Schoem,

Assistant Executive Director, Office of Compliance.

Eric Stone,

Director, Legal Division, Office of Compliance.

Margaret H. Plank,

Attorney, Legal Division, Office of Compliance.

Order

Upon consideration of the Settlement Agreement entered into between Royal Sovereign Corporation, a corporation, and the staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; and the Commission having jurisdiction over the subject matter and Royal Sovereign Corporation, and it appearing that the Settlement Agreement and Order is in the public interest, it is

Ordered, that the Settlement Agreement be and hereby is accepted, and it is

Further ordered, Royal Sovereign Corporation shall pay the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of TWENTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 dollars (\$20,000). The penalty shall be paid in four equal installments of FIVE

THOUSAND AND 00/100 dollars (\$5000). The first payment shall be due within ten (10) days after service of this Final Order upon Royal Sovereign Corporation. Subsequent payments shall be due thirty (30), sixty (60), and ninety (90) days thereafter.

In the event that Royal Sovereign Corporation fails to make a payment in accordance with the terms of this Order, or makes a payment that is at least five days late, the outstanding balance of the civil penalty shall become due and payable within five days, and the interest on the outstanding balance shall accrue and be paid at the federal legal rate of interest under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. 1961(a) and (b).

Provisionally accepted and Provisional Order issued on the 3rd day of August, 2000.

By Order of the Commission.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

[FR Doc. 00-20008 Filed 8-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

General Services Administration

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

[OMB Control No. 9000-0002]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request Entitled Solicitation Mailing List Application (SF 129)

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0002).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Solicitation Mailing List Application (SF 129). A request for public comments was published at 65 FR 35617, June 5, 2000. No comments were received.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the

public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before September 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments, including suggestions for reducing this burden, should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ralph DeStefano, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-1758.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

The Standard Form 129, Solicitation Mailing List Application, is used by all Federal agencies as an application form for prospective contractors to provide information needed to establish and maintain a list of firms interested in selling to the Government. The information is used to establish lists of firms to be solicited when the products or services they provide are needed by the Government.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 200,000.

Responses Per Respondent: 4.

Total Responses: 800,000.

Hours Per Response: .58.

Total Burden Hours: 464,000.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals

Requester may obtain a copy of the proposal from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0002, Solicitation Mailing List Application (SF 129), in all correspondence.

Dated: August 4, 2000.

Edward C. Loeb,

Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.

[FR Doc. 00-20179 Filed 8-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0011]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request Entitled Preaward Survey Forms (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408)

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0011).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Preaward Survey forms (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408). A request for public comments was published at 65 FR 35617, June 5, 2000. No comments were received.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before September 8, 2000.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ralph DeStefano, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-1758.