
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1981 No. 1218

PUBLIC HEALTH, ENGLAND AND WALES
PUBLIC HEALTH, SCOTLAND
The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations 1981

Made - - - - 18th August 1981

Laid before Parliament 2nd September 1981

Coming into Operation 23rd September 1981

The Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for Scotland acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 9(4), 15, 30, 33 and 34 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951^(a) and now vested in them ^(b) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following regulations:—

Title and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations 1981 and shall come into operation on 23rd September 1981.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations—

“the Act” means the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951;

“British Standard 1425:1960” means the British Standard of that number and year and incorporating the amendments set out in Schedule 1;

“registered or licensed premises” means premises registered or licensed under the Act; and

“Schedule” means a Schedule to these regulations.

(2) References in these regulations to the cleanliness test, the oil and soap test, the animal fibre test, the trash content test, the chlorides test, the dust index test and the cleanliness test (water extract) shall be construed as references, respectively, to tests carried out in accordance with the provisions of Appendices C, D, E, F, G, H, P and Q to British Standard 1425:1960.

(3) Any reference in these regulations to a certificate or form shall include a reference to a certificate or form to the like effect.

Prescription of materials

3. The following materials are hereby prescribed as filling materials to which the Act applies, that is to say—

(a) rubberised hair and fibre;

^(a) 1951 c. 63.

^(b) S.I. 1970/1681.

- (b) through-bonded and surface-bonded felt manufactured from loose or layered fillings complying with Part 1 of British Standard 1425:1960;
- (c) through-bonded and surface-bonded felt manufactured from new and unused filling materials complying with a Part (other than Part 1) of British Standard 1425:1960 applicable to those fillings;
- (d) cellular rubber and cellular plastics crumb;
- (e) all kinds of wood fillings, including wood shavings, sawdust and wood wool (new or used);
- (f) felt containing not less than 40 per cent of animal fibre;
- (g) felt containing less than 40 per cent of animal fibre and complying with Part 1 of British Standard 1425:1960; and
- (h) unwoven man-made fibres and man-made fibre block other than unwoven synthetic fibres and synthetic fibre block.

Standards of cleanliness

4.—(1) The standards of cleanliness applicable for the purposes of the Act in relation to each kind of filling materials described in column 1 of Schedule 2 shall be such that a sample of those materials taken, submitted and prepared for testing in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 shall, when submitted to the tests appropriate thereto as shown in column 2 of Schedule 2, satisfy the requirements set opposite those tests respectively in column 3 of Schedule 2.

(2) Additionally all filling materials to which the Act applies shall be free from vermin; and in this paragraph “vermin” includes the eggs, larvae and pupae of insects and parasites.

Analysts

5.—(1) The persons named in Schedule 4 are, with their several consents, hereby prescribed as the analysts for the purposes of the Act.

(2) Any of the said persons may at any time give not less than one month's written notice to the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for Scotland of his desire to withdraw his consent to prescription as aforesaid and upon the expiry of such notice he shall cease to be so prescribed.

Certificates of testing

6. A certificate given in pursuance of section 15 of the Act with respect to any sample shall be in the following form:—

I certify that I have subjected the sample of (here state the kind of filling materials of which the sample was composed).....
..... received by me from (here give the name and address of the person by whom the sample was submitted).....
..... on (insert date)..... and
(where necessary or expedient here specify any special markings, etc, used to identify the sample) to the undermentioned tests in accordance with the Rag Flock and Other Filling

Materials Regulations 1981 and that the results of these tests were as shown hereunder:—

Tests	Results
1	1
2	2
etc	etc
Remarks	

Date Signed
Prescribed Analyst

Records

7.—(1) The records to be kept under section 9 of the Act by the occupiers of registered or licensed premises shall be in the appropriate forms set out in Schedule 5.

(2) All such records shall be kept separately from any other records and all entries therein shall be made in ink.

Revocation

8. The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations 1971(a) are hereby revoked.

Regulation 2(1)

SCHEDULE 1

AMENDMENTS TO BRITISH STANDARD 1425:1960

PD 4041	issued	February 1961
PD 4296	..	September 1961
PD 4687	..	October 1962
PD 5355	..	October 1964
Supplement No. 1	..	1966
PD 5973	..	January 1967
PD 6283	..	November 1967
Amendment slip No. 7	..	7th December 1970
Amendment slip No. 8	..	1st July 1971
Amendment slip No. 9	..	15th September 1971
Amendment slip No. 10	..	22nd January 1973
Amendment slip No. 11	..	31st October 1973
Amendment slip No. 12	..	29th April 1977
Amendment slip No. 13	..	30th November 1979
Amendment slip No. 14	..	30th June 1981

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 4(1)

(1) Kind of Filling Materials	(2) Appropriate Test	(3) Requirements
1. Rag Flock	{ Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 1.8 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 200 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
2. (a) Unused jute wadding or jute flock entirely composed of raw jute or new jute card waste or any mixture of those materials. (b) Used jute wadding or used jute flock.	{ Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 2 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 6 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides. Not to contain more than 1.8 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 6 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 200 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
3. Wool which has been scoured but not dyed or spun and containing not less than 96 per cent of animal fibre as determined by the animal fibre test.	{ Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 1.5 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 3 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.

SCHEDULE 2 (*cont*)

(1) Kind of Filling Materials	(2) Appropriate Test	(3) Requirements
4. (a) Unused woollen flock containing not less than 70 per cent of animal fibre as determined by the animal fibre test.	Oil and soap test	Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap.
(b) Used woollen flock containing not less than 70 per cent of animal fibre as determined by the animal fibre test.	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 1.5 per cent of soluble extracted matter.
	Oil and soap test	Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap.
5. (a) Felt containing not less than 40 per cent of animal fibre, as determined by the animal fibre test.	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 1.8 per cent of soluble extracted matter.
	Oil and soap test	Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap.
	Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 200 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
(b) Felt containing less than 40 per cent of animal fibre and complying with Part 1 of BS 1425:1960	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 1.8 per cent of soluble extracted matter.
	Oil and soap test	Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap.
	Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 200 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
6. (a) Unused cotton flock and unused cotton mill puffs obtained in the process of spinning unused raw cotton.	Oil test	Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil.
	Trash content test	Not to contain more than 15 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.

SCHEDULE 2 (*cont*)

(1) Kind of Filling Materials	(2) Appropriate Test	(3) Requirements
(b) Unused cotton felt made from unused raw cotton, unspun cotton waste, or cotton linters or from any combination of those materials.	<div>Oil test</div> <div>Trash content test</div> <div>Dust index test</div>	<div>Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil.</div> <div>Not to contain more than 7.5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.</div> <div>To have a dust index of not more than 1.8 where the test is carried out under the conditions specified in paragraph 10 of Part 6 of British Standard 1425:1960.</div>
(c) Used cotton flock or used cotton mill puffs or used cotton felt.	<div>Cleanliness test</div> <div>Oil and soap test</div> <div>Trash content test</div> <div>Chlorides test</div>	<div>Not to contain more than 1.8 per cent of soluble extracted matter.</div> <div>Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap.</div> <div>Not to contain in the case of used cotton flock and used cotton mill puffs more than 15 per cent and in the case of used cotton felt more than 7.5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.</div> <div>Not to contain more than 200 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.</div>
7. Kapok	Trash content test	Not to contain more than 3 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.
8. (a) Unused kapok/cotton, being a mixture containing not less than 50 per cent by weight of kapok, the remainder being cotton.	<div>Oil test</div> <div>Trash content test</div>	<div>Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil.</div> <div>Not to contain more than 5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.</div>

SCHEDULE 2 (*cont*)

(1) Kind of Filling Materials	(2) Appropriate Test	(3) Requirements
(b) Unused cotton/ kapok, being a mixture con- taining not less than 50 per cent by weight of cotton and not less than 20 per cent by weight of kapok.	Oil test Trash content test	Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil. Not to contain more than 5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.
(c) Used kapok/cotton, being a mixture containing not less than 50 per cent by weight of kapok, the remainder being cotton.	Cleanliness test Oil test Trash content test	Not to contain more than 1·5 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil. Not to contain more than 5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.
(d) Used cotton/kapok being a mixture containing not less than 50 per cent by weight of cotton and not less than 20 per cent by weight of kapok.	Cleanliness test Oil test Trash content test	Not to contain more than 1·5 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil. Not to contain more than 5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities.
9. Hair	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 1 per cent of total extracted matter.
10. Coir fibre, Algerian fibre, Mexican fibre, sisal, and any mixture of such fibres or any mixture thereof with hair.	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 1·5 per cent of insoluble extracted matter and where the filling consists wholly or partly of used materials not to contain more than 1·5 per cent of soluble extracted matter.

SCHEDULE 2 (cont)

(1) Kind of Filling Materials	(2) Appropriate Test	(3) Requirements
11. Feathers and down.	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 2.2 per cent of total extracted matter, more than 1.2 per cent of soluble matter, and more than 0.015 per cent of ammonia.
12. Unwoven man-made fibres and man-made fibre flock.	{ Cleanliness test { Oil and soap test { Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 1.5 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
13. Mixtures of unused cotton fillings with unused man-made fibres of which not less than 50 per cent are unused cotton fillings.	{ Oil test { Trash content test { Dust index test	Not to contain more than 2 per cent of oil. Not to contain more than 7.5 per cent of trash, namely seed, chaff (leaf and stalk), sand or other impurities. To have a dust index of not more than 1.8 where the test is carried out under the conditions specified in paragraph 11 of Part 15 of British Standard 1425:1960.
14. Rubberized hair and fibre.	Cleanliness test (water extract)	Not to contain more than 2.5 per cent by weight of total extracted matter.
15. (a) Through-bonded and surface-bonded felt manufactured from loose or layered fillings complying with Part 1 of British Standard 1425:1960.	{ Cleanliness test { Oil and soap test { Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 2 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 6 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.

SCHEDULE 2 (*cont*)

(1) Kind of Filling Materials	(2) Appropriate Test	(3) Requirements
(b) Through-bonded and surface-bonded felt manufactured from new and unused filling materials complying with a Part of British Standard 1425:1960 (other than Part 1) applicable to those materials.	Cleanliness test (water extract)	Not to contain more than 2.5 per cent by weight of total extracted matter.
16. Cellular rubber and cellular plastics crumb.	{ Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 2 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 6 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
17. All kinds of wood fillings, including wood shavings, sawdust and wood wool (new or used).	{ Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 1.5 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.
18. New coir/jute being a mixture containing not less than 25 per cent by weight of each material.	Cleanliness test	Not to contain more than 1.5 per cent of insoluble extracted matter and more than 2.5 per cent of soluble extracted matter.
19. Any filling materials to which the Act applies, and any mixture of such materials, not otherwise specified in this Schedule.	{ Cleanliness test Oil and soap test Chlorides test	Not to contain more than 1.5 per cent of soluble extracted matter. Not to contain more than 5 per cent of oil and soap. Not to contain more than 300 parts per 1,000,000 of soluble chlorides.

SCHEDULE 3

TAKING AND TREATMENT OF SAMPLES

1. In this Schedule—

“fraction” means a portion of material taken from a particular part of the bulk in the process of collecting a sample;

“laboratory sample” means the portion of a sample taken for use by an analyst for the purpose of a test;

“loose material” means material which is in such a condition that a quantity of it has no inherent shape; and

“layered material” means material which has been processed so as to form a coherent layer of approximately uniform thickness.

2. A sample of materials submitted for testing shall be fairly representative of the bulk from which it was taken and shall include a due proportion of any dust and short fibres included in the bulk.

3. Where practicable, a sample shall consist of a quantity of material not less than 0.5 kg or, in the case of down, feathers or synthetic fibres, 0.25 kg in weight and shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph:—

(a) samples of loose materials shall be taken by collecting a number of fractions of approximately 30g or, in the case of down, feathers or synthetic fibres, 15g in weight, taken at random, each including a due proportion of dust and short fibres that may have become separated from the filling;

(b) samples of layered materials made up in rolls shall consist of a strip or strips of material not less than 30 cm wide taken from the full width of the roll or rolls.

4. A sample, before being tested, shall at all times be protected from rain, wind, heat and dust or other foreign matter and, in particular, it shall not be packed in hessian or any similar material unless it is first enclosed and sealed in a suitable inner package or wrapping so as to prevent any loss or gain of impurities or fine particles.

5. With respect to the preparation of laboratory samples:—

(a) every laboratory sample shall be fairly representative of the sample from which it is taken and, in particular, shall—

(i) include a due proportion of any dust or short fibres included in the sample, and

(ii) where the sample is submitted for testing in separate fractions, comprise an appropriate portion of each fraction.

(b) where a sample is submitted for testing in its supporting fabric or coating no part of such fabric or coating shall be included in any laboratory sample.

(c) a laboratory sample shall be disintegrated carefully by hand before being tested and care shall be taken to avoid any loss of dust or short fibres during this process.

Regulation 5(1)

SCHEDULE 4

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Regulation 7

SCHEDULE 5

Forms to be used by the occupiers of registered premises:—

(a) with respect to every consignment of filling materials received at those premises.

1 Date of receipt	2 Name of consignor	3 Address from which consignment was sent	4 Kinds of materials in consignment	5 In respect of each kind of materials	
				Whether used or unused	Quantity

(b) with respect to every consignment of second-hand articles containing filling materials received at those premises.

1 Date of receipt	2 Name and address of consignor	3 Kinds of articles in the consignment	4 Number of each kind of article	5 Date of despatch of each article from the premises	6 Name and address of consignee of each article

Form to be used by the occupiers of premises licensed:—

(a) for the manufacture of rag flock, or

(b) as a store for the keeping of rag flock,

with respect to all rag flock (whether loose or layered) consigned from those premises.

¹ Date of despatch	² Quantity consigned	³ Name and address of consignee

Form to be used by the occupiers of premises licensed as a store for the keeping of rag flock with respect to every consignment of rag flock received at those premises:—

¹ Date of receipt	² Quantity received	³ Name of consignor	⁴ Address from which consignment was sent

6th August 1981.

Michael R. D. Heseltine,
Secretary of State for the Environment.

18th August 1981.

George Younger,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations, which supersede the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations 1971, prescribe:—

- (a) the materials mentioned in Regulation 3 as filling materials (other than those already listed in section 33 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951) to which that Act applies;
- (b) standards of cleanliness for each kind of filling material to which the Act applies;
- (c) analysts for the purposes of tests under the Act, and the form in which a certificate of the results is to be given; and
- (d) the form in which records are to be kept by occupiers of premises registered under the Act for the use of filling materials, or licensed for the manufacture or storage of rag flock, the manner in which the records are to be kept and the information which is to be recorded.

The principal changes from the previous regulations are the prescription of additional filling materials as filling materials to which the Act applies and the prescription of additional analysts. The power to prescribe the cases in which a fee may be charged under section 15 of the 1951 Act together with the power to prescribe the amount of such fees were repealed by Schedule 1 to the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (c. 65). Consequently the regulations make no provision for prescribing fees for the tests to be carried out by prescribed analysts under the 1951 Act.

The British Standard referred to in these regulations, together with the amendments thereto, is published by and may be obtained from the British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS.

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