

Labeling as 'Faux Fur' or 'Real Fur' in New York State

A fur labeling regulation had been established by US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) under "Fur Products Identification Act - 16 CFR 301" and "Fur Products Labeling Act - 15 U.S.C. §69". Correct labeling benefits both manufacturer and consumer interests.

Fur products must have the below information disclosed on the label:

- ◆ Animal name* (according the Fur Products Name Guide – Section 301.0),
- ◆ Registered Identification Number (RN) of the manufacturer, importer or other distributor,
- ◆ Country of origin for imported fur product,
- ◆ Whether the fur is:
 - dyed, bleached or natural,
 - composed in whole or substantial part of pieces.

* *Dog or cat fur is prohibited by both the Dog and Cat Protection Act of 2000 and California criminal law.*

In New York State, an amendment of the general business law has been enacted that all articles of apparel which contain imitation or natural fur must be labeled as 'faux fur' or 'real fur'. This act is related to selling and manufacturing of fur-bearing articles of clothing, by adding a new section 399-aaa. This law becomes effective on 13 November 2007. (Ninety days after it was signed on 15 August 2007.)

Purpose of this law

The purpose is to ensure that consumers are able to make informed decisions when they are purchasing articles of clothing containing fur and faux fur. This information is to ensure that consumers can be aware of the true nature of the product.

Sources:

Amendment of the general business law (bill number: A8966A – add new section S399-aaa):

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A08966&sh=t>

Rules and Regulations under the Fur Products Identification Act (16 CFR 301): <http://tinyurl.com/35f8k3>

Fur Products Labeling Act: <http://tinyurl.com/3484le>

Definitions of the phrase 'Faux Fur' or 'Real Fur'

'Faux Fur' means artificially manufactured fur which is made to resemble real fur but which is not derived from animals.

'Real Fur' means animal skin or part thereof with hair, fleece, or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state.

Labeling

All articles of clothing must add the phrase 'Faux fur' or 'Real fur' to either below cases:

- ⇒ The permanent tag attached to the clothing,
- ⇒ The temporary tag used by the merchant to identify the merchandise,
- ⇒ Affixing a sticker with such phrases to the article of clothing, in a conspicuous place.

Exemption of this rule

The Federal Fur Labeling Act and the rules promulgated under the Act, provide that articles of clothing containing fur products under US\$150 in value are not subject to the Act's labeling requirements. However, the State of New York requires labeling on all garments containing faux or real fur regardless of price.

SGS provides service on fur species identification. We can also help you to comply with regulatory and safety standards by offering:

- ⇒ Labeling review of your products per country
- ⇒ SRS (Standard & Regulation Services) table providing standards and requirements applicable per product and per country.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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