

**COMMISSION DIRECTIVE 2004/34/EC
of 23 March 2004**

amending, for the purposes of adapting to technical progress, Annexes I and II to Directive 96/74/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on textile names

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Directive 96/74/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 1996 on textile names ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 16(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Directive 96/74/EC lays down rules governing the labelling or marking of products as regards their textile fibre content, in order to ensure that consumer interests are thereby protected. Textile products may be placed on the market within the Community only if they comply with the provisions of that Directive.
- (2) In view of recent findings by a technical working group, it is necessary, for the purposes of adapting Directive 96/74/EC to technical progress, to add the fibre polylactide to the list of fibres set out in Annexes I and II to that Directive.
- (3) Directive 96/74/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (4) The measures provided for in this Directive are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for Directives relating to Textile Names and Labelling,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

Directive 96/74/EC is amended as follows:

1. In Annex I the following row 33a is inserted:

'33a	Polylactide	Fibre formed of linear macromolecules having in the chain at least 85% (by mass) of lactic acid ester units derived from naturally occurring sugars, and which has a melting temperature of at least 135 °C'
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2. In Annex II the following entry 33a is inserted:

'33a	Polylactide	1,50'
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Article 2

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 1 March 2005 at the latest. They shall forthwith communicate to the Commission the text of those provisions and a correlation table between those provisions and this Directive.

When Member States adopt those provisions, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or be accompanied by such a reference on the occasion of their official publication. Member States shall determine how such reference is to be made.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

Article 3

This Directive shall enter into force on the 20th day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 4

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 23 March 2004.

For the Commission

Erkki LIIKANEN

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 32, 3.2.1997, p. 38. Directive as amended by Commission Directive 97/37/EC (OJ L 169, 27.6.1997, p. 74).