**CENTRAL AMERICA RTCA 61.01.03:12**

**TECHNICAL**

**REGULATION**

**FOOTWEAR AND PARTS. LABELLING REQUIREMENTS.**

CORRESPONDENCE: This Technical Regulation is a partial adaptation of the Salvadoran Mandatory Standard for Labelling of Footwear. NSR 61.01.02:00 and COGUANOR Standard NGO 59001, LABELLING OF FOOTWEAR

ICS 61.060 RTCA 61.01.03:12

Central American Technical Regulation, edited by:

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**REPORT**

The respective Technical Committees for Technical Regulations across the Technical Regulation Entities of the Central American countries, are the bodies responsible for carrying out the study or the adoption of the technical regulations. They are composed of representatives of the Academic, Consumer, Private Enterprise and Government sectors.

This Central American Technical Regulation RTCA 61.01.03:12 FOOTWEAR AND PARTS: LABELLING REQUIREMENTS was adopted by the Subgroup on Standardisation of Measures of the Central American Region. The formalisation of this Technical Regulation implies the adoption by the Council of Ministers for Economic Integration (COMIECO).

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1. **OBJECTIVE**

To establish the requirements that the labelling of footwear and parts must meet when sold separately.

1. **SCOPE**

Applies to the labelling of new footwear and parts thereof[[1]](#footnote-1), when made available to the final consumer within the territory of the States Parties.

The following type of footwear is not considered for the purposes of this technical regulation:

1. The footwear which has characteristics of a toy;
2. Footwear designed to provide security and protection against risks arising from the realisation of a specific activity; and
3. The booties of light disposable materials or of little resistance, as textile, paper or synthetic, without soles applied.

Note: The labelling of footwear used will be dependent on the national legislation of each State party.

1. **DEFINITIONS**
   1. **Bullón:** piece that is placed in the so-called “shoe mouth” (where the foot is inserted) at the top covering the side and rear areas and is padded.
   2. **Footwear**: clothing item with soles, primarily intended to protect, cover and safeguard the foot while facilitating walking, doing sports, artistic activities and other activities, and may have aesthetic connotations and in special cases, therapeutic or remedial connotations.
   3. **Buttress (heelcap)**: Rear parts inside the quarter, which surround the heel of the foot and are in contact with it, its effects are essentially protection and anti-slip.
   4. **Quarter**: set of pieces that constitute the top of the shoe. The quarter is basically considered formed by the vamp or uppers, lining and heelcap.
   5. **Leather (leather tanned)**: skin that has been chemically treated with tanning material that retains its original fibrous structure more or less intact so that it is rot-proof.

NOTES

1. If the skin has been disintegrated chemically or mechanically into fibrous particles, fragments of dust, then regenerating, with or without the combination of a binding agent, in the form of sheets or other similar forms, such forms or sheets cannot be called leather.
2. If the leather has the surface covered by a layer of coating or by a layer glued to it, this surface layer not should of be of a thickness more than 0.15mm, regardless of the form applied.
3. When using the expression “full grain leather” or “whole grain”, this refers to a skin that retains its original grain surface, as it appears after removing the skin and without having removed any film by fixing, snuffing or splitting.
   1. **Coated leather**: skin whose layer of surface coating does not exceed a third of the total thickness of the product, but exceeds 0.15 mm.
   2. **Fit and support element**: these are used to adjust the shape of the shoe to the shape of the foot in the instep directly and in the heel and side indirectly. There are different types, within which it is located, laces or cords and eyelets or hooks, elastic, belts, buckles, Velcro, zippers among others.
   3. **Vamp or shoe upper**: part or assembly of parts forming the outside of the quarter and is the structural element which is attached to the sole.
   4. **Midsole**: plate of rubber, leather or other material that goes between the insole and the outsole, whose function is to give thickness and strength to the outsole.
   5. **Supplementary label**: that which is used to make available to the consumer the mandatory information when the original label is in a language other than Spanish / Castilian or for adding those mandatory elements not included in the original label and that the present regulation requires .
   6. **Label**: any label, tag, inscription, image or other descriptive or graphic material that has been written, printed, marked, engraved, adhered to or using any other similar process, superimposed on the packaging or the product.
   7. **Labelling**: written, printed or graphic information that contains the label.
   8. **Lining**: is the inner lining of the shoe uppers.
   9. **Tongue**: Its main functions are to protect the foot (the instep area) against the friction of the fasteners and to allow the foot to be inserted into the shoe as a supportive element; this is attached to the instep or uppers by stitching and is commonly formed by cut and lining material.
   10. **Other materials**: others that are used for manufacturing of footwear, such as synthetic materials, rubber, cardboard, wood, crepe, cork, metal, among others.
   11. **Country of origin**: country where the footwear was manufactured.
   12. **Outer sole**: set of pieces that constitute the bottom of the shoe and that stand between the foot and the ground. The floor is considered basically formed by the sole, midsole, heel, insole and bottom filling (sole).
   13. **Bottom filling**: component of the sole where the cut is set. The foot rests on the bottom filling when these are not covered by the insole.
   14. **Insole**: inner part where the sole of the foot rests.
   15. **Skin**: protein or fibrous material with flower (collagen) that covers the animal.
   16. **Toe cap or cap**: this item is to maintain the stability of the shape of the tip in footwear, as well as to help the cut to maintain the shape of the tip of the mould because, given the number of joints present on the toes, it requires sufficient space for movement for the functions of the foot when walking. This part is placed between the lining and the cut. Moreover, there are protection caps (metal or polymer) designed to protect the fingers against external physical agents (shock and compressions).
   17. **Sole**: lower part of the shoe that is attached to the shoe uppers. The sole totally or partially is in contact with the ground and is subjected to frictional wear by it.
   18. **Heel**: rear lower part of the shoe, which raises the heel position.
   19. **Top lift**: piece or part of the heel in contact with the ground.
   20. **Textile**: product which is produced based on the use of fibres of animal, vegetable, artificial or synthetic origin, or a combination thereof. It is understood to include, in declarative form but not limited to, yarns and fabrics.
4. **GENERAL LABELLING PRINCIPLES**
   1. The labelling must be marked, printed, sewed, or glued to the shoe or on a label that can be attached, hung or tied to the product.
   2. The data that must appear on the label, under this technical regulation shall be indicated with clear, visible indelible and easy to read characters under normal conditions of reading for the consumer, at the time of purchase and use; and must be present in the parts of the footwear when sold separately and in at least one of each pair of shoes.
   3. The information must be placed prior to the placing on the market for the sale to the consumer.
   4. A complementary label containing the mandatory information in Spanish/Castilian language must be used where the language in which the original label is worded is not Spanish/Castilian, which must be placed prior to the marketing of the product.
   5. The information that is required may be on one or more tags, the same are applied by the manufacturer or importer.
   6. For presentation of the information on the label characters whose height is not less than 1mm should be used, understanding the height to be the distance covered from the baseline to the top base of a character in uppercase.
   7. There must be text contrast with respect to the background and shall ensure that the text is not erased under normal use.
5. **MANDATORY LABELLING**
   1. On the label of the footwear and parts thereof when they are sold separately, the following information must appear as applicable:
6. Country of origin.
7. Name and address.
8. The name and address of the manufacturer or distributor for domestic products should be indicated, as appropriate.
9. For imported products the name and address of the importer or final distributor of the product under this regulation should be indicated.

NOTE: When the shoes are in a box or other form of factory packaging, this information may also appear on the packaging.

* 1. **Information about the materials of the parts of the footwear**
     1. The parts that make the footwear must be indicated, using the textual identification of the same, according to Table 1. However, pictograms may be used provided that they indicate the meaning.

**Table 1**

**Identification and pictogram of the parts of footwear**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TEXTUAL IDENTIFICATION** | **PICTOGRAM** |
| **UPPER** |  |
| **LINING AND INNER SOLE** |  |
| **OUTER SOLE** |  |

NOTE: In the cases in which the lining material and the inner sole are different an independent pictogram can be used for each of these parts.

* + 1. In the case of the upper, the determination of the materials is made regardless of accessories or reinforcements such as ankle patches/piping, ankle protectors, ornaments/trims, buckles, eyelets/rings for eyelets or similar devices.
    2. In the case of the sole, the determination is based on the highest percentage of the materials contained therein.
    3. Information on the material that is the majority, at least 80% of the surface of the upper and the lining and inner sole of the footwear and at least 80% of the volume of the sole should be provided. If no one material accounts for 80%, information on the two main materials that make up the footwear should be provided.
    4. The materials that make up the parts of the footwear must be indicated in textual form. However, pictograms may be used according to Table 2, provided that they indicate their meaning.

**Table 2**

**Identification and pictogram of the materials composing key parts of footwear**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TEXTUAL IDENTIFICATION** | **PICTOGRAM** |
| **LEATHER** |  |
| **COATED LEATHER** |  |
| **TEXTILE** |  |
| **OTHER MATERIALS** |  |

* 1. **Information about the size of the footwear**
     1. The size of the shoe should be indicated by the foot length, expressed in French numbering (European), American numbering (USA) or other nationally or internationally accepted commercial practice.
     2. The number (or numbers) indicating the shoe size, should be in each one of the shoes that constitute the pair, in a visible place and legible by the consumer.
     3. When the shoes are in a box or other form of factory packaging, the numbering of the same must also appear in this package.
  2. **Other information**

Any information can be added that the manufacturer considers necessary for the footwear to be maintained at optimum conditions of use, depending on the characteristics of the product.

1. **MONITORING AND VERIFICATION**

The monitoring and verification of the technical regulation corresponds to the competent authorities in accordance with the law of the States Parties.

**ANNEX 1**

**(INFORMATIVE)**

**FOOTWEAR COVERED BY THE CENTRAL AMERICAN TECHNICAL REGULATIONS[[2]](#footnote-2)**

The following are considered footwear for the purposes of this technical regulation, among others:

1. flat shoes or heels of ordinary indoor or outside use (inside and outside of houses, buildings etc.);
2. boots, half boots, knee length boots and thigh high boots;
3. sandals of various types; espadrilles (shoes with canvas uppers and soles of plaited vegetable material); shoes for tennis, running and other sports; bathroom slippers and other types of casual footwear;
4. special sports footwear designed for a certain sporting activity that has incorporated, or can carry, nails, tacks, clips/ties, bars/strips or similar devices, as well as footwear for skating, skiing, wrestling, boxing and cycling; it also includes footwear with skates attached (ice or roller);
5. dancing shoes;
6. footwear obtained in a single piece, particularly by moulding rubber or plastic;
7. protective footwear for industrial use;
8. disposable footwear, with applied soles, generally designed for 10 to be used only once;
9. orthopaedic footwear.

Also, for the purposes of this technical regulation within the scope of application the products classified under Chapter 64 of the Central American Tariff System (SAC) footwear, gaiters and the like; parts thereof are considered:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HS CODE | DESCRIPTION |
| 64.01 | Waterproof footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or of plastics, the uppers of which are neither fixed to the sole nor assembled by stitching, riveting, nailing, screwing, plugging or similar processes. |
| 64.02 | Other footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or plastics. |
| 64.03 | Footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of leather. |
| 64.04 | Footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of textile materials. |
| 64.05 | Other footwear. |
| 64.06 | Parts of footwear (including uppers whether or not attached to soles other than outer soles); removable in-soles, heel cushions and similar articles; gaiters, leggings and similar articles, and parts thereof. |

**--END OF THE TECHNICAL REGULATION--**

1. The main parts are: heelcap, lining, vamp, heel, top piece, insole, bottom filling and sole, among others. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The current annex is for informative purposes and must be understood without prejudice of what is referred to in paragraph 2 of the normative part of the regulation. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)