SHARP CARPET FACTORY OUTLET

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Vinyl - Wood - Carpet - Custom Rugs

September 28, 2007

RE: 16 CFR part 303 – Textile Rule 8, Mohawk, Dupont, and PTT Canada Comment, Matter No. P074201

I have been involved in the carpet industry since 1971. I have worked for the largest manufacturers and visited with hundreds of retailers and flooring consumers over the years. For the past fourteen years I have operated my own retail stores in central Alabama.

During the past thirty six years, I have experienced the many technological changes to manufacturing, dyeing, and the fibers used in carpet. I have seen the successes and failures. I have sold nylon and polyester yarns the entire time.

It is my belief that the new Dupont Sorona fiber is a technological breakthrough so great than the fiber is incorrectly classified as "polyester." After experiencing polyesters through the years, consumers have come to expect a certain, low performance level in exchange for a cost savings. Consequently, polyester carpets are considered by most consumers as lower in quality than nylons. To place Sorona with the moniker of "polyester" is a disservice to the manufacturer, the retailer, and most importantly the consumer.

Dupont's Sorona fiber, used in Mohawk's SmartStrand products, is far superior to any polyester ever produced. The inherent stain protection, improved durability, and performance even though it is softer than common polyesters, place Sorona in a new category of fiber that deserves its own name.

As a retailer, I don't feel comfortable selling Sorona as a polyester, since it certainly outperforms any "polyester" that the consumer has seen before. Please consider creating a new subclass that the manufacturers can promote as being as distinctly different as the products truly are.

If you have any questions, please call me at 205-668-1324.

Thank you.

Richard Wann