Commercial Standard 170-50

Cotton Flour Bag (Sack) Towels
A RECORDED VOLUNTARY STANDARD OF THE TRADE

COMMODITY STANDARDS

Simplified Practice Recommendations and Commercial Standards are developed by manufacturers, distributors, and users in cooperation with the Commodity Standards Division of the Office of Industry and Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, and with the National Bureau of Standards.

The purpose of Simplified Practice Recommendations is to eliminate avoidable waste through the establishment of standards of practice for stock sizes and varieties of specific commodities that currently are in general production and demand. The purpose of Commercial Standards is to establish standard methods of test, rating, certification, and labeling of commodities, and to provide uniform bases for fair competition.

The adoption and use of a Simplified Practice Recommendation or a Commercial Standard is voluntary. However, when reference to a Commercial Standard is made in contracts, labels, invoices, or advertising literature, the provisions of the standard are enforceable through usual legal channels as a part of the sales contract.

A Simplified Practice Recommendation or a Commercial Standard originates with the proponent industry. The sponsors may be manufacturers, distributors, or users of the specific product. One of these three elements of industry submits to the Commodity Standards Division the necessary data to be used as the basis for developing a standard of practice. The Division, by means of assembled conferences or letter referenda, or both, assists the sponsor group in arriving at a tentative standard of practice and thereafter refers it to the other elements of the same industry for approval or for constructive criticism that will be helpful in making any necessary adjustments. The regular procedure of the Division assures continuous servicing of each effective Simplified Practice Recommendation and Commercial Standard, through review and revision, whenever, in the opinion of the industry, changing conditions warrant such action. Simplified Practice Recommendations and Commercial Standards are printed and made available by the Department of Commerce through the Government Printing Office and the Department of Commerce field offices.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Charles Sawyer, Secretary
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Charles Sawyer, Secretary

BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE
Office of Industry and Commerce
H. B. McCoy, Director

IN COOPERATION WITH
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS
E. U. Condon, Director

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office
Washington 25, D. C. - Price 5 cents
Cotton Flour Bag (Sack) Towels

[Effective October 11, 1950]

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this commercial standard is to foster maintenance of the quality of cotton flour bag (sack) towels and to provide a nationally recognized standard for the information of producers, distributors, and users.

2. SCOPE

2.1 This commercial standard covers dish and tea towels made from a particular quality of used cotton bags or sacks. The standard includes dimensions of the towels and physical properties, such as weight per square yard, yarns per inch, and water absorption of the cotton bag material.

3. DEFINITION

3.1 “Cotton flour bag towels,” for the purpose of this standard, means towels made from cotton bags that were designed to carry 100 pounds or more of flour, feed, sugar, or a similar commodity. Whenever this term is used, it shall also be intended to cover the term “cotton flour sack towels”.

4. CLOTH REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Cotton bag material.—Cotton flour bag towels shall be produced from bags made of cotton sheeting which have been used only once for carrying 100 pounds or more of flour, feed, sugar, or a similar commodity. The cloth shall have been used for no other purpose.

4.2 Construction.—The weight per square yard and number of yarns per inch shall conform with the requirements given in table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight, minimum</th>
<th>Yarns per inch, minimum</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oz./sq. yd.</td>
<td>Warp</td>
<td>Filling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 0</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In order to comply with this minimum requirement, the number of yarns in the warp or filling or both must be greater than the minimums specified.

4.3 Imperfections.—Except for needle points, the cloth shall carry no holes or other imperfections that may affect the appearance or serviceability of the towels.
4.4 Water absorption.—When the cloth is tested as described in paragraph 6.1, the water shall rise at least 3 centimeters in 40 seconds.

5. TOWEL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Laundering.—Flour bag towels shall have been washed, bleached, and mangled.

5.2 Dimensions.—Flour bag towels shall be no smaller than 30 inches by 17 inches, finished.

5.3 Hems or finished edges.—Other than the selvage, sides shall have hems or finished edges. Hems shall be of the flat or rolled type, stitched with two or more threads, and have at least seven stitches to the inch. The stitching may be of the lock-stitch type. Finished edges may be either the overedge or the overcast stitch type.

6. METHODS OF TEST

6.1 Water absorption.—A towel shall be suspended from one end with the lower end immersed in water to a depth of 3 centimeters. The time required for the water to rise to 3 centimeters above the surface of the water is reported. So as to eliminate any effect due to hem and stitching, the rise in water over a center strip of the towel, 12 inches wide, shall be used in determining the water rise. In order to facilitate the observation of the rise of the water, the specimen is thinly sprinkled with a mixture of powdered eosin and sugar which becomes strongly colored as soon as wet. The top and bottom ends of the towel are held wide open. Weights aggregating approximately 20 grams (about 1 g. per 2 cm. width) are distributed uniformly across the bottom end to keep the towel immersed throughout the test.

6.2 When purchased in large quantities, the number of towels to be tested as representative of the lot purchased shall be that agreed upon between buyer and seller.

7. IDENTIFICATION

7.1 Statement.—In order that purchasers may be assured that flour bag towels comply with all requirements of the commercial standard, it is recommended that manufacturers include the following statement in conjunction with their name and address on labels, invoices, sales literature, etc.:

These flour bag towels comply with Commercial Standard CS170–50, as developed by the trade under the procedure of the Commodity Standards Division, and issued by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

7.2 When available space on labels is insufficient for the full statement in legible type, an abbreviated statement, as follows, is recommended:

Complies with CS170–50, as developed by the trade, and issued by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

7.3 The following illustrates how an important group of producers of cotton flour bag towels has considered showing compliance with this commercial standard. It is expected that cotton flour bag towels produced by members of this group will be identified by means of the following symbol on invoices, package tags, or promotional literature.
8. EFFECTIVE DATE

8.1 Having been passed through the regular procedure of the Commodity Standards Division, and approved by the acceptors hereinafter listed, this commercial standard was issued by the United States Department of Commerce, effective from October 11, 1950.

Edwin W. Ely,
Chief, Commodity Standards Division.

STANDING COMMITTEE

The following individuals comprise the membership of the standing committee, which is to review, prior to circulation for acceptance, revisions proposed to keep the standard abreast of progress. Comment concerning the standard and suggestions for revision may be addressed to any member of the committee or to the Commodity Standards Division, Office of Industry and Commerce, United States Department of Commerce, which acts as secretary for the committee.

Robert Koch, Chairman

Bell, Dr. Robert H., Lucius Pitkin, Inc., 47 Fulton St., New York 7, N. Y. (representing American Council of Commercial Laboratories, Inc.).
Boogle, L., Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago 7, Ill. (representing the Mail Order Association of America).
Daniel, Mrs. Ernest H., Broad Branch & Grant Roads NW., Washington 8, D. C. (representing the General Federation of Women's Clubs).
HISTORY OF PROJECT

The Textile Bag Manufacturers Association on December 10, 1949, requested the cooperation of the Commodity Standards Division in the establishment of a commercial standard for cotton flour bag (sack) towels, and submitted a proposed specification to be used as a basis for the commercial standard.

The specification was submitted for comment on February 3, 1950, to a number of manufacturers, distributors, users, and other interested organizations. After adjustment in agreement with the consensus of comment received, a recommended commercial standard was referred to the trade for written acceptance on June 30, 1950.

Acceptances in writing estimated to be a satisfactory majority having been received, an announcement was issued on September 11, 1950, that the standard would become effective for new production on October 11, 1950.

Project Manager: H. A. Ehrman, Commodity Standards Division, Office of Industry and Commerce.
ACCEPTANCE OF COMMERCIAL STANDARD

If acceptance has not previously been filed, this sheet properly filled in, signed, and returned will provide for the recording of your organization as an acceptor of this commercial standard.

Date ________________________

Commodity Standards Division,
Office of Industry and Commerce,
U. S. Department of Commerce,
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We believe that the Commercial Standard 170-50 constitutes a useful standard of practice, and we individually plan to utilize it as far as practicable in the

production 1 distribution 1 purchase 1 testing 1

of cotton flour bag (sack) towels.

We reserve the right to depart from it as we deem advisable.

We understand, of course, that only those articles which actually comply with the standard in all respects can be identified or labeled as conforming thereto.

Signature of authorized officer ________________________

(In ink)

(Kindly typewrite or print the following lines)

Name and title of above officer ________________________

Organization ________________________

(Fill in exactly as it should be listed)

Street address ________________________

City, zone, and State ________________________

1 Underline which one. Please see that separate acceptances are filed for all subsidiary companies and affiliates which should be listed separately as acceptors. In the case of related interests, trade associations, trade papers, etc., desiring to record their general support, the words "General Support" should be added after the signature.
TO THE ACCEPTOR

The following statements answer the usual questions arising in connection with the acceptance and its significance:

1. Enforcement.—Commercial standards are commodity specifications voluntarily established by mutual consent of those concerned. They present a common basis of understanding between the producer, distributor, and consumer and should not be confused with any plan of governmental regulation or control. The United States Department of Commerce has no regulatory power in the enforcement of their provisions, but since they represent the will of the interested groups as a whole, their provisions through usage soon become established as trade customs, and are made effective through incorporation into sales contracts by means of labels, invoices, and the like.

2. The acceptor's responsibility.—The purpose of commercial standards is to establish for specific commodities nationally recognized grades or consumer criteria, and the benefits therefrom will be measurable in direct proportion to their general recognition and actual use. Instances will occur when it may be necessary to deviate from the standard, and the signing of an acceptance does not preclude such departures; however, such signature indicates an intention to follow the commercial standard, where practicable, in the production, distribution, or consumption of the article in question.

3. The Department's responsibility.—The major function performed by the Department of Commerce in the voluntary establishment of commercial standards on a Nation-wide basis is fourfold: first, to act as an unbiased coordinator to bring all interested parties together for the mutually satisfactory adjustment of trade standards; second, to supply such assistance and advice as past experience with similar programs may suggest; third, to canvass and record the extent of acceptance and adherence to the standard on the part of producers, distributors and users; and fourth, after acceptance, to publish and promulgate the standard for the information and guidance of buyers and sellers of the commodity.

4. Announcement and promulgation.—When the standard has been endorsed by a satisfactory majority of production or consumption in the absence of active, valid opposition, the success of the project is announced. If, however, in the opinion of the standing committee or of the Department of Commerce, the support of any standard is inadequate, the right is reserved to withhold promulgation and publication.
## ACCEPTORS

The organizations listed below have individually accepted this standard for use as far as practicable in the production, distribution, testing, or sale of cotton flour (sack) towels. In accepting this standard, they have agreed to depart from it as they individually deem advisable. It is expected that towels which actually comply with the requirements of this standard in all respects will be regularly identified or labeled as conforming thereto, and that purchasers will require such specific evidence of conformity.

### ASSOCIATIONS (General Support)
- American Cotton Manufacturers Institute, Inc., Charlotte, N. C.
- American Hotel Association, New York, N. Y.
- National Association of Registered Nursing Homes, Inc., White Plains, N. Y.
- National Restaurant Association, Chicago, Ill.
- Textile Bag Manufacturers Association, Evanston, Ill.

### FIRMS AND OTHER INTERESTS
- Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala., Alabama, State of, Montgomery, Ala. (General support.)
- Allied Analytical & Research Laboratories, Dallas, Tex.
- American Cotton Products Co., Chicago, Ill.
- Arrow Bag Co., Oklahoma City, Okla.
- Associated Hotels, Chicago, Ill.
- Associated Industries of Georgia, Atlanta, Ga. (General support.)
- Berg Bag Co., Minneapolis, Minn.
- Bestex Cotton Products Co., Detroit, Mich.
- Better Fabrics Testing Bureau, Inc., New York, N. Y.
- Bleck & Kuhl Co., Pooja, Ill.
- Blue Bird Cafeteria Co., Louisville, Ky.
- Bowser-Moorey Testing Laboratories, Dayton, Ohio.
- Bradenton Women's Club, Bradenton, Fla.
- Bradford Durfee Technical Institute, Fall River, Mass.
- Brandeis, J. L., & Sons, Omaha, Nebr.
- Bullock's, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Butler Bros., Chicago, Ill.
- California Testing Laboratories, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif.
- California, University of, Agricultural Extension Service, Berkeley, Calif. (General support.)
- Culver Towel Service Inc., Chicago, Ill.
- Chase Bag Co., Los Angeles, Calif.
- Cooper's Department Store, Fresno, Calif.
- Coyle & Richardson, Inc., Charleston, W. Va.
- Ehringer Dry Goods Co., Canton, Ohio.
- Fliene's, William, Sons Co., Boston, Mass.
- Florida State University, Tallahassee, Fla.
- Frank & Soder of Detroit, Inc., Detroit, Mich.
- Good Housekeeping Institute, New York, N. Y.
- Hatcher Textile Research, New York, N. Y.
- Herrmann's Department Store, St. Paul, Minn.
- Hochschild-Kohn & Co., Baltimore, Md.
- Hochstatter Laboratories, Inc., New York, N. Y.
- Kahler Corp., The, Rochester, Minn.
- Kalamazoo, City of, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kans.
- Leef Bros., Minneapolis, Minn.
- Levy Bros., San Mateo, Calif.
- Los Angeles, City of, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Mandel Bros., Inc., Chicago, Ill.
- Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, Ill.
- Miller & Paige, Lincoln, Nebr.
- Murphy, G. C., Co., McKeesport, Pa.
- National Bellas Hess N. Y. Corp., New York, N. Y.
- Norfolk Testing Laboratories, Norfolk, Va.
- North Carolina State College, School of Textiles, Raleigh, N. C. (General support.)
- Penniman & Browne, Inc., Baltimore, Md.
- Perkins Bros. Co., Dallas, Tex.
- Pittsburgh Testing Laboratories, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Pittsburgh Testing Laboratory, San Francisco, Calif.
- Prison Industries, Graterford, Pa.
- Ragdale Self Service Laundry, Atlanta, Ga.
- Rich's, Inc., Atlanta, Ga.
- St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, Ill.
- Schuerman's, Inc., St. Paul, Minn.
- Schwartz, Charles, & Co., Chieto, Ill.
- Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago, Ill.
- Service Textile Co., Inc., Newark, N. J.
- Shillito, John, Co., The, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Snell, Foster D., Inc., New York, N. Y.
- South Dakota State College, Brookings, S. Dak. (General support.)
- Stone's Industrial Cafeterias Inc., Chicago, Ill.
- Tepper, Carl K., & Son, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Texas Technological College, Textile Engineering and Physics Departments, Lubbock, Tex.
- Twin City Testing and Engineering Laboratory, St. Paul, Minn.
- United Motor Courts, Inc., Denver, Colo. (General support.)
- U. S. Bag Co., Los Angeles, Calif.
- U. S. Linen Supply Co., Chicago, Ill.
- U. S. Testing Co., Inc., Hoboken, N. J.

### COMMERCIAL STANDARDS

| C8 No. | 6-31. Wrought-iron pipe nipples. Superseded by C55-46. |
| 4-29. Standard weight malleable iron or steel screwed unions. |
| 11-41. Moisture regain of cotton yarns. |

| C8 No. | 6-31. Wrought-iron pipe nipples. Superseded by C55-46. |
| 7-29. Standard weight malleable iron or steel screwed unions. |
| 11-41. Moisture regain of cotton yarns. |
79-40. Blown, drawn, and dropped lenses for sun glasses (published with CS71–40).
80-41. Electric direction signal systems other than semaphore type for commercial and other vehicles subject to special motor vehicle laws (after market).
81-41. Adverse-weather lamps for vehicles (after market).
82-41. Inner-controlled spotlamps for vehicles (after market).
83-41. Clearance, marker, and identification lamps for vehicles (after market).
84-41. Electric tail lamps for vehicles (after market).
85-41. Electric license-plate lamps for vehicles (after market).
86-41. Electric stop lamps for vehicles (after market).
87-41. Red electric warning lanterns.
88-41. Migrant burning flares.
89-40. Hardware stair treads and risers. Power cranes and shovels.
90-49. Factory-fitted Douglas fir entrance doors.
92-41. Cedar, cypress and redwood tank stock lumber.
93-50. Portable electric drills (exclusive of high frequency).
94-41. Calking lead.
95-41. Lead pipe.
96-42. Lead trout and bends.
97-42. Electric supplementary driving and passing lamps for vehicles (after market).
98-42. Artists' oil paints.
99-42. Gage furnaces—gravity circulating type.
100-47. Porcelain-enamed steel utensils.
101-43. Flue-connected oil-burning space heaters equipped with vaporizing pot-type burners.
102-43. (Reserved for "Diesel and fuel-oil engines.")
106-44. Boys' pajama sizes (woven fabrics).
107-44. Men's shirt collars.
108-43. Treading automobile and truck tires.
109-44. Solid-fuel-burning forced-air furnaces.
110-43. Tire repairs—vulcanized (passenger, truck, and bus tires).
111-43. Earthenware (vitreous-glazed) plumbing fixtures.
112-43. Homogeneous fiber wallboard.
113-44. Oil-burning floor furnaces equipped with vaporizing pot-type burners.
114-43. Sheet-metal sheathing for mattress protection.
115-44. Porcelain-enamed tanks for domestic use.
116-44. Bituminized-fibre pipe drain and sewer pipe.
117-49. Insulation and glass for heating and hot water systems.
118-44. Marking of jewelry and novelties of silver.
119-45.37. Dial indicators (for linear measurement).
121-45. Women's slip sizes (woven fabrics).
122-49. Western softwood plywood.
123-49. Prefabricated houses.
124-45. Tank-mounted air compressors.
127-45. Self-contained mechanically refrigerated hotels and motels.
128-49. Men's sport shirt sizes—woven fabrics (other than those marked with regular neckband sizes).
129-47. Materials for safety wearing apparel.
130-46. Color materials for art education in schools.
131-46. Industrial mineral wool products, all types—installing and reporting.
132-46. Hardware cloth.
133-46. Woven wire netting.
135-46. Men's shirt sizes (exclusive of work shirts).
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<tr>
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<td>Insect wire screening.</td>
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<td>Work gloves.</td>
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<td>Hot rolled rail steel bars (produced from Tee-section rails).</td>
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<td>158-49.</td>
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<td>159-49.</td>
<td>Sunglass lenses made of ground and polished plate glass, thereafter thermally curved.</td>
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<td>Wood fiber blanket insulation (for building construction).</td>
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<td>166-50.</td>
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<td>167-50.</td>
<td>Automotive and general service copper tube.</td>
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<tr>
<td>168-50.</td>
<td>Polystyrene plastic wall tiles, and adhesives for their application.</td>
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<tr>
<td>169-50.</td>
<td>Galvanized ware fabricated from pregalvanized steel sheets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171-50.</td>
<td>Hardwood veneered doors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notice.**—Those interested in commercial standards with a view toward accepting them as a basis of everyday practice may secure copies of the above standards, while the supply lasts, by addressing the Commodity Standards Division, Office of Industry and Commerce, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.
For local telephone listing, consult section devoted to U. S. Government