Harmonized System for Textiles: Classification and Coding

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Accra (Ghana)



Harmonized System for Textiles: Classification and Coding

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Why This Course

Textiles represent one of the most complex and diverse product groups in the Harmonized System HS. From raw fibers to finished garments, correct classification requires a clear understanding of HS structure, legal notes, product characteristics, and the General Interpretative Rules GIRs. Inaccurate classification can result in costly customs delays, penalties, and trade disputes—making specialized knowledge essential for anyone involved in textile trade.

The HS Classification for Textiles Program is an intensive 1-week course designed to give participants the technical expertise and practical skills needed to navigate textile-related HS codes with confidence. Through a combination of guided instruction, case studies, and hands-on exercises, participants will learn to classify fibers, fabrics, apparel, and technical textiles accurately and efficiently.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By completing this program, participants will be able to:

- Understand the structure, logic, and governing principles of the Harmonized System
- Accurately classify textile fibers, yarns, fabrics, apparel, and made-up articles
- Apply legal notes and General Interpretative Rules GIRs to textile classifications
- Use HS tools and resources to determine proper codes and avoid misclassification
- Support customs compliance, trade negotiations, and tariff-related decisions

The Program Flow

Day 1 - Introduction to the Harmonized System

- The role and importance of HS in global trade
- Structure of the HS: sections, chapters, headings, subheadings, and notes
- General Interpretative Rules GIRs 1-3 and their textile relevance
- Overview of textile-related sections and chapters 50-63



Day 2 - Textile Fibers & Yarns

- Classification of natural fibers: cotton, wool, silk, flax, and others
- Classification of man-made fibers: synthetic and artificial filaments/staples
- Yarn classification based on material, structure, and processing
- Legal notes for Chapters 50-55 and their practical application
- Hands-on exercises in classifying fibers and yarns

Day 3 - Fabrics & Made-Up Textile Articles

- Classification of woven, knitted, crocheted, and non-woven fabrics
- Application of legal notes and technical definitions in Chapters 56-60
- Made-up textile articles in Chapter 63 and related provisions
- Applying GIRs 4-6 to complex textile products
- Case studies in fabric and made-up article classification

Day 4 - Apparel & Clothing Accessories

- Principles for classifying apparel under Chapters 61 knitted and 62 woven
- Classification of clothing accessories, including gloves, scarves, and ties
- Key legal notes, exclusions, and special provisions affecting apparel
- Practical garment classification workshop with real-world examples

Day 5 - Advanced Topics & Practical Application

- Textile-related headings found outside Chapters 50-63
- Classification of technical textiles, composite materials, and specialty products
- HS updates and amendments impacting textile trade
- Final comprehensive classification exercise across the entire textile chain

Practical Wins for Participants

Participants will complete the program ready to:

- Confidently classify textile products across multiple HS chapters
- Improve customs declaration accuracy and reduce clearance delays
- Strengthen their role in tariff discussions, trade negotiations, and compliance reviews
- Provide expert HS guidance within textile manufacturing, distribution, or export teams

Organizational Impact

Organizations benefit through:



- Reduced compliance risks and fewer costly classification errors
- More efficient international shipping and customs clearance processes
- Improved tariff planning and trade strategy decisions
- Enhanced internal capacity for navigating evolving HS requirements

Training Methodology

This program integrates:

- Hands-on classification exercises using real textile samples
- Case studies representing actual customs challenges
- Interactive workshops applying GIRs and legal notes
- Expert-led sessions on textile terminology and classification trends

Beyond the Course

Participants return equipped to:

- Lead HS classification tasks for textile products
- Support teams with accurate tariff coding and compliance procedures
- Adapt to HS updates and evolving trade requirements
- Improve the organization’s overall efficiency in textile trade operations

