



# USA DOWN & FEATHER LABELING STANDARDS - APPAREL (DOWN JACKETS, VESTS, BOOTS, etc.)

Down clothing does not require the complex law tag label needed for bedding products. Fill can be listed using the sub-label percentages only. However, they must be labeled using the new USA-2000 down and feather standards.

On February 7, 2001, Carol Jennings, of the **Federal Trade Commission (FTC)**, wrote:

In rescinding the [1971 FTC] Guides, the FTC stated that the general principles of the FTC Act would apply to the marketing of down products. . . . Accordingly, a jacket labeled 80% down should in fact contain 80% down (within a very few percentage points).

William Cale, former **President of ABFLO** (association of government officials who enforce labeling laws), wrote:

When the FTC rescinded their old guides it was for the entire industry, not just furniture and bedding... Down blended goods should have a down content as stated on the law label.

Industry members are encouraged to be vigilant in monitoring both their own and their competitors practices. If, in the future, deceptive practices prove to be a problem in the industry, further FTC enforcement may be warranted.

## LABELING RULES

A jacket labeled **DOWN** must have a minimum of **75% down**. This minimum down % should be listed. An example of the correct sewn-in label is:

<b>WHITE GOOSE DOWN (MINIMUM 75% DOWN)</b>	<b>or..... MINIMUM 75% WHITE GOOSE DOWN</b>
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A down/feather jacket with tested content of **65% down** should be labeled:

<b>DOWN &amp; FEATHERS (65% DOWN, 35% WATERFOWL FEATHERS)</b>	<b>or.... 65% DOWN 35% WATERFOWL FEATHERS</b>
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## LICENSE TO SELL DOWN-FILLED CLOTHING IN THE USA:

If you sell, offer to sell (catalogue or internet), distribute, manufacture, or import down-filled clothing in the USA and these products are shipped to any Utah location, **you must license with the State of Utah**. Please see the attached application or contact:

**Michelle Jack, State of Utah**  
[mjack@utah.gov](mailto:mjack@utah.gov)

**Tel: 801 538 7151**  
**Fax: 801 538 4949**

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February 16, 2010