

amount of time to complete the final assembly of the product. In one scenario, the timeframe to complete the assembly was three to four minutes. In the second scenario, it took seven to eight minutes and in a third scenario assembly was completed within two to three minutes. Meanwhile, the complexity, time and skill involved in producing the Chinese-origin controller board (with firmware), printed circuit boards, print engine and the remaining components exceeded the simplistic assembly that took place in Mexico. Finally, CBP reasoned that since the print engine was the central mechanism by which the printer/fax machine performed its printing and because the controller board and PCB were the central command components that determined when and how the machines were to function, these components combined to impart the essential character of the overall printer/fax machine.

Finally, in HQ H018467, CBP considered two manufacturing scenarios for multi-function printers. In one scenario, manufacturing took place in two countries; in the other, it took place in three countries. In the two-country scenario, 18 units were manufactured in the Philippines from components produced in various countries. The units were sent to Japan where the system control board, engine control board, organic photoconductor (“OPC”) drum unit, and the toner reservoir were manufactured and incorporated into the units. The control boards were programmed in Japan with Japanese firmware that controlled the user interface, imaging, memories, and the mechanics of the machines. The machines were then inspected and adjusted as necessary. CBP found that the manufacturing operations in Japan substantially transformed the Philippine units such that Japan was the country of origin. In making the determination (and in addition to the finding that operations performed in Japan were meaningful and complex and resulted in an article of commerce with a new name, character and use), CBP considered the fact that the system control board, the engine control board, and the firmware, which were very important to the functionality of the machines, were manufactured in Japan.

The relevant judicial precedent and CBP rulings indicate that the component (or components) that imparts the character of a product will be a significant factor in determining the country of origin of a product. This matter is most like HQ H304677, in which we determined that certain printer units assembled in Mexico from various Chinese-origin components, a Mexican-origin PCBA, and U.S.-origin firmware to be of China origin. As in HQ H304677, we find that the subject PCBA does not serve as the only fundamental functioning component of the thermal printers. Although the PCBA and Japanese-origin firmware enable the thermal printers to communicate with external devices and process the images to be printed, the other components and assemblies are also critical in enabling the printer to form text or images and apply heat to the paper to create text or images. For instance, the Chinese-origin print head physically applies heat to the treated

paper to produce an image. Likewise, a Chinese-origin flexible PCBA controls each printer’s on/off function, and a Chinese-origin radio circuit also facilitates the device’s communication with external devices. *See also*, HQ H301910, *supra* (noting PCBA, print head, and firmware are all essential to a printer’s function). This matter is further distinguishable from HQ H287548 in which we determined that that the Japanese-origin PCBA and firmware conferred the essential character of a printer that was assembled in the United States from components sourced from a variety of countries, including Japan, the Philippines, China, and Vietnam (where many of the foreign-origin components were assembled into discrete subassemblies). In the present matter, by contrast, the largest portion of both cost and components used in producing the subject thermal printers is imparted by the Chinese-origin components.

This matter is also distinguishable from HQ H018467 (which was decided before *Energizer Battery*) in which CBP determined, in relevant part, the country of certain multi-function printers to be Japan where Philippine-origin subassemblies manufactured from components produced in various countries were combined in Japan with Japanese-origin system control board, engine control board, OPC drum unit, toner reservoir and firmware. In finding the country of origin to be Japan, CBP also found the assembly operations occurring in Japan to be complex and meaningful. In contrast to HQ H018467, here, although the PCBA and firmware originated in Japan as in HQ H018467, the subject thermal printers contained no other components originating in Japan; instead, as noted above, the overwhelming majority, approximately 97%, of components, originated in China. Furthermore, and again unlike in HQ H018467, the assembly operations occurring in Japan are not complex or meaningful. Instead, outside of the PCBA assembly, the Japanese assembly process consists of simple steps such as mounting, attaching, fitting, and screwing the imported components together. *See also*, HQ H219519 (finding final assembly in Mexico not complex or meaningful). Therefore, as with HQ H304677, we find the present scenario is analogous to *Uniroyal* and *Energizer Battery* where the imported material did not undergo a substantial transformation. While *Uniroyal* did not go into detail concerning the manufacture and contribution of the sole to the shoe, the decision recognized that it was the manufacture of the upper, just like the many Chinese printer components here, that provided the character to the finished article. Similarly, we find that the mechanical printing functions are imparted by the Chinese-origin components.

Based on the foregoing, we find that the country of origin of the subject thermal printers is China and, therefore, would not be products of a foreign country or instrumentality designated pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2511(b)(1).

Holding

Based on the facts and analysis set forth above, the country of origin of the instant thermal printers will be China.

Notice of this final determination will be given in the **Federal Register**, as required by 19 CFR 177.29. Any party-at-interest other than the party which requested this final determination may request, pursuant to 19 CFR 177.31, that CBP reexamine the matter anew and issue a new final determination. Pursuant to 19 CFR 177.30, any party-at-interest may, within 30 days of publication of the **Federal Register** Notice referenced above, seek judicial review of this final determination before the U.S. Court of International Trade.

Sincerely,

Alice A. Kipel, *Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade.*

[FR Doc. 2024–13115 Filed 6–13–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–4781–DR; Docket ID FEMA–2024–0001]

Texas; Amendment No. 6 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Texas (FEMA–4781–DR), dated May 17, 2024, and related determinations.

DATES: This amendment was issued May 29, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dean Webster, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646–2833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Texas is hereby amended to include the following areas among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the event declared a major disaster by the President in his declaration of May 17, 2024.

Bell, Henderson, and Tyler Counties for Individual Assistance.

The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households In Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals

and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.

Deanne Criswell,

Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2024–13072 Filed 6–13–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–4781–DR; Docket ID FEMA–2024–0001]

Texas; Amendment No. 5 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Texas (FEMA–4781–DR), dated May 17, 2024, and related determinations.

DATES: This amendment was issued May 27, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dean Webster, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646–2833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Texas is hereby amended to include the following areas among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the event declared a major disaster by the President in his declaration of May 17, 2024.

Collin, Cooke, Denton, and Montague Counties for Individual Assistance.

The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households In Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance

(Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.

Deanne Criswell,

Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2024–13073 Filed 6–13–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–4778–DR; Docket ID FEMA–2024–0001]

Nebraska; Major Disaster and Related Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Nebraska (FEMA–4778–DR), dated May 3, 2024, and related determinations.

DATES: The declaration was issued May 3, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dean Webster, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646–2833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, in a letter dated May 3, 2024, the President issued a major disaster declaration under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.* (the “Stafford Act”), as follows:

I have determined that the damage in the State of Nebraska resulting from severe storms, straight-line winds, and tornadoes during the period of April 25 to April 27, 2024, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.* (the “Stafford Act”). Therefore, I declare that such a major disaster exists in the State of Nebraska.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate from funds available for these purposes such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

You are authorized to provide Individual Assistance and assistance for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B) under the Public Assistance program in the designated areas and Hazard Mitigation throughout the State. Consistent with the requirement that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and Other Needs Assistance under section 408

will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs.

Further, you are authorized to make changes to this declaration for the approved assistance to the extent allowable under the Stafford Act.

The time period prescribed for the implementation of section 310(a), Priority to Certain Applications for Public Facility and Public Housing Assistance, 42 U.S.C. 5153, shall be for a period not to exceed six months after the date of this declaration.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice that pursuant to the authority vested in the Administrator, under Executive Order 12148, as amended, Andrew P. Meyer, of FEMA is appointed to act as the Federal Coordinating Officer for this major disaster.

The following areas of the State of Nebraska have been designated as adversely affected by this major disaster:

Douglas and Washington Counties for Individual Assistance.

Douglas and Washington Counties for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B) under the Public Assistance program.

All areas within the State of Nebraska are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households In Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.

Deanne Criswell,

Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2024–13082 Filed 6–13–24; 8:45 am]

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