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Prices Regulation Acts.

PRICES REGULATION ORDER No. 260.

FLOOR COVERING, FLOOR FELT, AND LINOLEUM.

IN pursuance of the powers conferred upon me by the Prices Regulation Acts, 1, John Francis Waldron, Prices Decontrol Commissioner, hereby make the following Order:—

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as Prices Regulation Order No. 260.

Revocation.

2. Prices Regulation Order No. 175 is hereby revoked.

Application.

3. Nothing in this Order shall apply to—
 - (a) the sale of any floor covering or linoleum by any accredited agent for British Manufacturers of floor covering or linoleum, which agent is a member of The Australian Association of British Manufacturers;
 - (b) sheepskin rugs.

Definitions.

4. In this Order, unless the contrary intention appears—

“Cost” means, in relation to the sale of any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, the purchase price paid or payable to the supplier of such goods.

“Cost of transport” means, in relation to the sale by a retail trader of any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, the cost of rail or sea transport actually incurred by such retail trader in conveying those goods to his store and recorded by him on the invoice delivered in relation thereto, but does not include any cost of transport which has been taken into account in the landed cost of such goods.

“Cutting and laying” means, in relation to any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, the service of cutting, laying, and trimming those goods, inclusive of any service in respect of any underfelt used, and the preparation of the floor space therefor.

“Floor felt” means felted floor covering of all descriptions whatsoever and includes—

(a) plain and marbled feltex, teprac, and other similar felt products manufactured by Federal Felters Pty. Ltd. and Daylesford Felt Mills Pty. Ltd.; and

(b) Austex marbled felt floor coverings and other similar felt products manufactured by J. E. Austin and Sons Ltd.;

but does not include underfelt.

“Linoleum” means floor cloths of all widths, including squares, composed of linseed oil, cork, and other ingredients, on hessian back or base, and also includes printed floorcloth of felt paper and/or bitumen, and floorcloth composed of oil and whiting on hessian.

“Floor covering” means floorcloth of all descriptions whatsoever without limiting the generality thereof, and includes all body carpet, carpet runners, carpet squares, mats, runners, and underfelt, but does not include floor covering composed mainly of rubber or floor felt or linoleum.

“Imported” means, in respect of any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum which is manufactured outside the Commonwealth of Australia.

“Landed cost” means, in relation to the sale of any imported floor covering, floor felt, or imported linoleum, the aggregate of—

(i) the purchase price paid or payable after deduction of trade discount, but before deduction of any cash discount;

(ii) inland carriage charges;

(iii) outside packing charges;

(iv) overseas office or forwarding agent's commission actually incurred (but not in excess of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per centum of the gross invoice price of the goods after deduction of trade discount, but before deduction of cash discount);

(v) bill of lading and shipping charges;

(vi) insurance and freight paid (but not in excess of current standard sea freight rates);

(vii) exchange and bank fees actually incurred (but not in the case of exchange in excess of mail steamer sight draft rates and in the case of bank fees three-eighths of 1 per cent.);

(viii) duty and primage paid;

(ix) wharfage and stacking charges paid;

(x) harbor dues and Stevedoring Commission levy paid;

(xi) customs entry and customs agent's charges paid (but not including any charges for costing or any percentage surcharge on cost); and

(xii) cartage actually incurred in transporting goods from wharf to store or from wharf to bond only (but not in excess of current standard Master Carriers' rates).

“Metropolitan area” means all that area comprised within a radius of twenty miles from the General Post Office, Melbourne.

“Rate” includes remuneration.

“Retail trader” means, in relation to the sale of any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, a person who purchases or imports those goods and sells them by retail.

“Wholesale trader” means, in relation to the sale of any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, a person who purchases or imports those goods and sells them by wholesale.

Records to be Kept.

5. Any person who supplies any service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum shall keep, in respect of each such service, records specifying the following particulars :—

- (a) Name and full address of the person to whom the service is supplied ;
- (b) Date of supply of service ;
- (c) Job identity number ; and
- (d) Names of any employees engaged on the service and the times in minutes for each employee of the time taken by him in the operations performed in respect of such service.

Maximum Prices—Sales by Wholesale Traders.

6. I fix and declare the maximum price at which any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum may be sold by a wholesale trader to be the sum of—

- (a) the cost, or landed cost, as the case may be, of such floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum ;
- (b) the percentage of (a) as is specified in the First Schedule to this Order ; and
- (c) sales tax paid or payable.

Maximum Prices—Sales by Retail Traders.

7. I fix and declare the maximum price at which floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum covered by the provisions of this Order may be sold by a retail trader to be—

- (a) in respect of sales within the metropolitan area, the sum of—
 - (i) the cost, or landed cost, as the case may be, of such floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum ;
 - (ii) sales tax paid or payable ;
 - (iii) the percentage of the sum of (i) and (ii) as is specified in the Second Schedule to this Order ;
- (b) in respect of sales outside the metropolitan area, the sum of—
 - (i) the cost, or landed cost, as the case may be, of such floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum ;
 - (ii) sales tax paid or payable ;
 - (iii) the percentage of the sum of (i) and (ii) as is specified in the Second Schedule to this Order ;
 - (iv) cost of transport.

Maximum Rates—Cutting and Laying.

8. I fix and declare the maximum rate at which the service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum may be supplied to be—

- (a) where the premises on which the service is supplied are situated within ten miles of the place of business from which the service is supplied—a sum calculated by multiplying 2d. by the actual time in minutes which all adult persons engaged in the supply of such service spend on that service on the premises of the person to whom the service is supplied :

Provided that such charge in respect to the cutting and laying of linoleum shall not exceed an amount calculated at the rate of 5s. 3d. per lineal yard of the number of yards of linoleum actually laid ;

- (b) where the premises on which the service is supplied are situated more than ten miles from the place of business from which the service is supplied—the rate specified in the immediately preceding paragraph plus the following additional charges where such have actually and reasonably been incurred :—
 - (i) Travelling time at the rate of 9s. 6d. per hour per person ;
 - (ii) Accommodation expenses incurred ; and
 - (iii) Transport charges incurred :

Provided that, where a private car is used for the purpose of transport, the transport charges shall not exceed a sum calculated at the rate of 6d. per mile for each mile after the first ten miles travelled by such car, irrespective of the number of persons travelling therein.

Maximum Rates—Planning, Making, and Measuring.

9. I fix and declare the maximum rate at which the service of planning, cutting, making, and laying (including measuring) any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum may be supplied to be—

- (a) where the premises on which the service is supplied are situated within ten miles of the place of business from which the service is supplied—the appropriate rate specified in the Third Schedule to this Order;
- (b) where the premises on which the service is supplied are situated more than ten miles from the place of business from which the service is supplied—the appropriate rate specified in the Third Schedule to this Order plus the following additional charges where such have actually and reasonably been incurred:—
 - (i) Travelling time at the rate of 9s. 6d. per hour per person;
 - (ii) Accommodation expenses incurred; and
 - (iii) Transport charges incurred:

Provided that, where a private car is used for the purpose of transport, the transport charges shall not exceed a sum calculated at the rate of 6d. per mile for each mile after the first ten miles travelled by such car, irrespective of the number of persons travelling therein.

Fixation of Maximum Prices and Maximum Rates by Notice in Writing.

10. (1) All notices in writing given in pursuance of any Order issued prior to this Order which operate to fix a lower maximum price for the sale of, or a lower maximum rate for the supply of, the service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum than the maximum price or rate fixed by the provisions of this Order, shall be deemed to have been given under this Order.

(2) All notices in writing given in pursuance of any Order issued prior to this Order which operate to fix a higher maximum price for the sale of, or a higher maximum rate for the supply of, the service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum than the maximum price or rate fixed by the provisions of this Order and which are in force at the commencement of this Order, are hereby revoked.

(3) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Order, I declare the maximum price at which any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum specified in a notice in pursuance of this sub-paragraph may be sold by any person to whom such notice is given to be such price as is fixed by the Commissioner by notice in writing to that person.

(4) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Order, I declare the maximum rate at which the service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum specified in a notice in pursuance of this sub-paragraph may be supplied by any person to whom such notice is given to be such rate as is fixed by the Commissioner by notice in writing to that person.

Invoices or Dockets to be Delivered.

11. Any person who sells any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum shall deliver with such goods an invoice or docket containing the following particulars in respect of such goods:—

- (a) The date of sale;
- (b) quantity and description;
- (c) price per unit charged; and
- (d) total price charged.

Discounts.

12. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Order, where any person has customarily allowed, in relation to sales by wholesale or the supply of the service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum, any difference in price—

- (a) to any person or to any person included in any class of persons;
- (b) in respect of sales of certain quantities of floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum; or
- (c) in respect of sales under certain conditions of sale or upon certain terms of payment;

the maximum prices or rates fixed by or under this Order, in respect of that floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum shall, in the case of sales to any such person or persons, or of such quantities or under such conditions or upon such terms of payment, be reduced by allowance of that difference:

Provided that, in respect of all sales by wholesale or the supply of the service of cutting and laying any floor covering, floor felt, or linoleum whether or not it has been customary to reduce those prices or rates, as the case may be, to such person or persons, or of such quantities or under such conditions of sale or upon such terms of payment, where payment is made within 30 days of the delivery of such goods or the supply of such service, such price or rate, as the case may be, shall be reduced by at least 2½ per centum.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.
SALES BY WHOLESALE TRADERS.

Goods.	Percentage of Cost or Landed Cost.
Floor coverings	12½
Floor felt	7½
Linoleum	15

THE SECOND SCHEDULE.
SALES BY RETAIL TRADERS.

Goods.	Where Purchased from a Wholesaler within the Commonwealth of Australia.	Where Purchased from a Manufacturer within the Commonwealth of Australia or from a Source outside the Commonwealth of Australia.
	%	%
Floor coverings	30	37½
Floor felt	17½	25
Linoleum—		
(a) Super quality (being all grades higher than "C" Grade of 2 m.m. thickness) ..	30	35
(b) All other linoleums	33½	40

THE THIRD SCHEDULE.
MEASURING, MAKING, AND LAYING FLOOR COVERINGS AND FLOOR FELT.

Service.	Maximum Rates per Lineal Yard.			
	27-in. Width.	36-in. Width.	54-in. Width.	72-in. Width.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Measuring and planning ..	0 9	1 0	1 3	1 3
Laying	1 10	2 4	2 0	2 7
Sewing	1 9	2 0	2 3	2 3
Measuring, planning, cutting, making, and laying	4 7	5 7	5 9	6 4
	Maximum Rate.			
Measuring only	3d. per lineal yard			
Laying woven squares ..	2s. 6d. per square yard.			

The above rates are subject to an increase of 25 per centum for service on used floor covering or floor felt.

Dated this 2nd day of July, 1951.

J. F. WALDRON,
Prices Decontrol Commissioner.

[The body of the page contains extremely faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.]