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U.S. Protectionism Blamed For Declining Fortunes Of Durango Maquiladoras

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On Sept. 21, Hector Leon Garcia, president of the Durango State Manufacturers Chamber (Camara de Transformacion del Estado de Durango), said US tariffs imposed on Mexican-made apparel are responsible for the declining fortunes of local maquiladoras. According to Garcia, the 45 maquiladoras pertaining to Durango's Comarca Lagunera are operating at 65% capacity this year. Garcia has requested that the federal government negotiate higher quotas with the US on garment imports, including an increase from 432,638 dozen pairs of pants to 600,000 dozen. The latter increase would be adequate to raise the capacity utilization rate to 90%. (Source: El Universal, 09/22/92)

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