

approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State (CA/VO).

Title of Information Collection: Contact Information And Work History For Nonimmigrant Visa Applicant.

Frequency: Once per respondent.

Form Number: DS-158.

Respondents: All nonimmigrant visa applicants seeking to study in the United States and other nonimmigrant visa applicants as determined to be appropriate by the Department of State.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,500,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 1 hour.

Total Estimated Burden: 2,500,000 hours.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents may be obtained from Brendan Mullarkey of the Office of Visa Services at 202-663-1163, 2401 E St., NW., U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520. Public comments and questions should be directed to the State Department Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20530, who may be reached on 202-395-3897.

Dated: January 18, 2003.

Janice L. Jacobs,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 03-2313 Filed 1-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub No. 4)]

Railroad Cost Recovery Procedures—Productivity Adjustment

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Proposed adoption of a Railroad Cost Recovery Procedures productivity adjustment.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board proposes to adopt 1.019 (1.9%) as the measure of average change in railroad productivity for the 1997-2001 (5-year) period. The current value of 4.2% was developed for the 1996 to 2000 period.

DATES: Comments are due by February 17, 2003.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The proposed productivity adjustment is effective 30 days after the date of service.

ADDRESSES: Send comments (an original and 10 copies) referring to STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub-No. 4) to: Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. Parties should submit all pleading and attachments on a 3.5-inch diskette in WordPerfect 6.0 or 6.1 compatible format.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: H. Jeff Warren, (202) 565-1533. Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision, which is available on our Web site <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from the Board's contractor, Dā-To-Dā Legal, Suite 405, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006, phone (202) 293-7776. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through FIRS: 1-800-877-8339.]

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or energy conservation.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: January 24, 2003.

By the Board, Chairman Nober, Vice Chairman Burkes, and Commissioner Morgan.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-2194 Filed 1-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Security Administration

Operation Safe Commerce Cooperative Agreement Program; Request for Application and Establishing the Closing Date for Receipt of Applications Under the Operation Safe Commerce Cooperative Agreement Program

AGENCY: Transportation Security Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for the Operation Safe Commerce Cooperative Agreement Program

SUMMARY: The Transportation Security Administration working in conjunction with an interagency Executive Steering Committee for Operation Safe Commerce (OSC) requests applications for the OSC Cooperative Agreement Program to fund business drive initiatives to enhance security for the movement of cargo through the supply chain. The goal of OSC is to explore business processes and technology prototypes that protect commercial shipments from threat of terrorist attack, illegal immigration, and contraband while minimizing the economic impact upon the transportation system. The Ports of Los Angeles, Long Beach, Seattle, Tacoma, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey are invited to submit proposals for funding consideration under this initiative. Persons and entities representing components of the supply chain may seek funding through these ports. The ports are encouraged to maximize their eligibility for funding by including representatives from all components of the supply chain, including major and minor load centers and feeder locations, their overseas customers and port partners, and the shipping lines serving these locations.

Authority for this program is contained in the fiscal year 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act for Further Recovery From and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States, Pub. L. 107-206, 116 Stat. 820.

DATES: The program announcement and application forms for the Operation Safe Commerce Cooperative Agreement Program are expected to be available on or about January 31, 2003. Applications must be received on or before 4 p.m. e.s.t., Marcy 20, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Program Announcement #02MLPA0001 for the Operation Safe Commerce Cooperative Agreement Program will be available through the

TSA Internet at <http://www.tsa.dot.gov> under Business Opportunities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For OSC technical information contact: Walter (Bud) Hunt, Office of Maritime and Land Security, Transportation Security Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., TSA-8, Washington, DC 20590; email: OSC@tsa.dot.gov, telephone 571-227-1200. For OSC Cooperative Agreement Program contact: Ronald Ouellet, Office of Maritime and Land Security, Transportation Security Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., TSA-8, Washington, DC 20590; email: OSC@tsa.dot.gov; telephone 571-227-1200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 64 FR 70110, November 20, 2002, provided background information and requested comments on the proposed project criteria for Operation Safe Commerce.

Total anticipated funding available for Operation Safe Commerce Cooperative Agreement Program is \$26,040,000. Awards under this program are subject to availability of funds.

In addition, the OSC Executive Steering Committee and the Transportation Security Administration announces a non-funded federal program under OSC. This non-funded OSC Associates program seeks to capture lessons learned from private and public efforts to secure the supply chain. This program will be open to organizations that accept certain minimal requirements to be set forth by the ESC. In return, the ESC and TSA will review their efforts and, if appropriate, will include them in the final report on OSC.

Dated: January 23, 2003.

J.M. Loy, Adm,

Under Secretary of Transportation for Security.

[FR Doc. 03-1918 Filed 1-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4110-62-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Announcement of a National Customs Automation Program Test To Eliminate the Submission of the Paper Master Air Waybill Document

AGENCY: Customs Service, Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces Customs plan to conduct a test under the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) under which a participating air carrier must

electronically transmit, through the Air Automated Manifest System, master air waybill data prior to arrival of the aircraft in the United States and will not have to submit a copy of the master air waybill as an attachment to the air cargo manifest upon arrival in the United States. Under the test, the participant still will be required to submit all other documentation as required and be capable of retrieving and printing a copy of the information contained in the master air waybill upon demand by Customs.

DATES: The test will commence no earlier than March 3, 2003, and will run for approximately one year. Comments concerning this notice and all aspects of the announced test must be received on or before February 20, 2003. Applications will be accepted throughout the duration of the test.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted to the U.S. Customs Service, Office of Field Operations, Manifest and Conveyance Branch, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 5.2B, Washington, DC 20229. Interested parties may apply to participate in the test by submitting a written request to the U. S. Customs Service, Office of Field Operations, Trade Compliance and Facilitation, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 5.2B, Washington, DC 20229, ATTN: Paperless Master AWB Test.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David King, Manifest and Conveyance Branch, Office of Field Operations (202-927-1133).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Title VI of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (the Act), Pub. L. 103-182, 107 Stat. 2057, 2170 (December 8, 1993), contains provisions pertaining to Customs Modernization (107 Stat. 2170). Subtitle B of title VI establishes the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP), an automated and electronic system for the processing of commercial importations. Section 631 of the Act creates sections 411 through 414 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1411 through 1414), as amended, which define and list the existing and planned components of the NCAP (19 U.S.C. 1411), establish program goals (19 U.S.C. 1412), provide for the implementation and evaluation of the program (19 U.S.C. 1413), and provide for the remote location filing of entries (19 U.S.C. 1414).

Requirements for conducting an approved test program or procedure designed to evaluate planned components of the NCAP are set forth in

§ 101.9 of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 101.9). These regulations, in part, enable the Commissioner of Customs to impose requirements different from those specified in the Customs Regulations, provided that the different requirements do not affect the collection of revenue, the public health and safety, or law enforcement. This test is established pursuant to that regulatory provision.

I. Description of Test Program

Air Cargo Manifest

Section 122.42(c) of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 122.42(c)) requires that the commander of an aircraft arriving in the United States from a foreign area, or his agent, must deliver upon arrival any required forms to the Customs officer at the place of entry. (Among these forms are the general declaration (§ 122.43), crew baggage declaration (§ 122.44), crew list (§ 122.45), stores list (§ 122.47), air cargo manifest (§ 122.48), and the passenger and crew manifests (§ 122.49a).) Section 122.48 of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 122.48) provides that an air cargo manifest is required for all cargo on board a flight arriving in the United States from a foreign area, except for cargo arriving from and departing for a foreign country on the same through flight. Section 122.48(c), Customs Regulations (19 CFR 122.48(c)), provides that the air cargo manifest must be on Customs Form (CF) 7509, that it must contain all required information, and that a more complete description of the cargo shipped under air waybills may be provided by attaching to the cargo manifest a copy of each air waybill and, if a consolidated shipment, copies of the house air waybills.

Electronic Submission of the Air Waybill Information

In an attempt to facilitate cargo processing and release, Customs has accepted, on a voluntary basis, the electronic transmission of air waybill information from qualified air carriers, through the Air Automated Manifest System (AAMS), either before or upon arrival of the aircraft in the United States. However, air carriers submitting air waybill information in this way are still required to submit the paper documents, even though the data is transmitted electronically. Now, to further facilitate the control, processing, and release of air cargo, Customs, via this test program, will relieve AAMS air carriers participating in the test from the requirement of submitting a copy of the master air waybill as an attachment to