

out that a review of tests involving the Century Model 590, in particular the VRTC test of September 18, 1995, suggests that the performance of some seats manufactured in 1994 may be marginal.

When a safety standard establishes minimum performance requirements for motor vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment through the use of specific values for particular parameters, as is the case here, NHTSA does not consider performance failures at higher levels to, in themselves, demonstrate that a safety-related defect exists. Moreover, NHTSA has consistently taken the position that the fact that a vehicle or item of equipment would not comply with a newly-issued, more stringent safety standard, which was not in effect on the date the vehicle or equipment was manufactured, does not constitute evidence that the vehicle or equipment is defective. Thus, given the fact that the Century Model 590 appears to satisfy the performance requirements of FMVSS No. 213 when tested with a 17-pound test dummy utilizing a conforming acceleration pulse, its performance with heavier dummies or at higher test speeds and accelerations does not indicate the existence of a safety defect.

In consideration of the available information, there is no reasonable possibility that an order concerning the notification and remedy of a safety-related defect based on the petitioner's allegations would be issued at the conclusion of an investigation. Therefore, the petition has been denied. However, the information developed regarding the reported failures of Century Model 590 seats in actual vehicle collisions merits further analysis. NHTSA will, therefore, initiate a Preliminary Evaluation to further investigate the actual collision performance of this seat in side impact crashes, which are not covered by FMVSS No. 213 or any other Federal motor vehicle safety standard.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30162(a); delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: March 6, 1996.

Michael B. Brownlee,
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance.

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Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation

Advisory Board; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public

Law 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App. I) notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, to be held at 2:00 p.m., March 27, 1996, at the Corporation's Washington, DC office, 400 7th Street, SW., Suite 5424, Washington, DC 20590 via conference call. The agenda for this meeting will be as follows: Opening Remarks; Consideration of Minutes of Past Meeting; Review of Programs; Business; and Closing Remarks.

Attendance at meeting is open to the interested public but limited to the space available. With the approval of the Acting Administrator, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing further information should contact not later than March 20, 1996, Marc C. Owen, Advisory Board Liaison, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; 202-366-0091.

Any member of the public may present a written statement to the Advisory Board at any time.

Issued at Washington, DC on March 5, 1996.

Marc C. Owen,
Advisory Board Liaison.

[FR Doc. 96-5767 Filed 3-11-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Office of Management invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this information collection. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Comments should address the accuracy of the burden estimates and ways to minimize the burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology, as well as other relevant aspects of the information collection.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposal for the collection of information should be received on or before May 13, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Ron Taylor, Office of Management (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. All comments will become a matter of public record and will be summarized in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. This document solicits comments concerning the following information collection:

OMB Control Number: 2900-0548.

Title and Form Number: Voluntary Customer Surveys to Implement Executive Order 12862—Department of Veterans Affairs.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Need and Uses: In compliance with Executive Order 12862, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will continue to conduct a series of qualitative and quantitative information collections to determine the kind of services its direct and indirect customers want, as well as customer levels of satisfaction with existing services. The surveys will solicit voluntary opinions. They will not be used to collect information required to obtain or maintain eligibility for a VA program or benefit. Baseline data obtained through these information collections will be used to develop customer service standards. VA is requesting generic approval to conduct a series of information collections over the next 3 years.

Current Circumstances: VA conducts a variety of activities to implement the Executive Order. If these activities were not conducted, VA would be unable to comply with the Executive Order, and would not have the information needed to establish standards for the best possible customer-focused service. VA uses the information gathered to determine where and to what extent services are satisfactory, and where and to what extent they may be improved. The information collected may lead to policy changes to enhance or streamline VA's overall operations.

Affected Public: Individuals and households—Business or other for-profit-Not-for-profit institutions—State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 611,428 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes (average).

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 305,714.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of collection of information proposal should also be directed to Department of Veterans Affairs, Attn: