

ACATS based on instructions from NSCC, the proposed rule change permits NSCC to establish links with other registered clearing agencies ("RCA"), such as DTC, PTC, and GSCC. Once an agreement has been reached with the applicable RCA, to the extent a transfer involves an asset position eligible for delivery at such RCA and both the receiving member and delivering member have an account there, NSCC will issue instructions to the applicable RCA indicating the delivering or receiving participant and the quantity of assets to be delivered and received. The instructions will not specify a value unless the transfer is between two members of NSCC and the assets to be transferred are government securities (where a nominal value shall be specified) <sup>14</sup> or mortgage-backed securities. If the assets are mortgage-backed securities, on settlement date NSCC will debit the deliverer the value and credit the receiver the value of the assets.

E. Indemnification Provision

The proposed rule change includes indemnification provisions similar to those currently in use by users of ACATS. While the revised rule includes such provisions, it does not preclude participants from entering into separate indemnification arrangements which are broader than those contained in the rule.

II. Discussion

The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder and particularly with the requirements of section 17A(b)(3)(F).<sup>15</sup> Section 17A(b)(3)(A)(F) requires that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions. The Commission believes that NSCC's rule change meets this standard because the changes to ACATS such as the ability to electronically transfer accounts not only to and from broker-dealers but not to and from banks and other financial institutions, the ability to do partial transfers, the ability to make certain corrections to instructions, and the ability to electronically transfer U.S. government and mortgage-backed securities, should provide a more efficient method for the transfer of customer assets and should

encourage use by more financial institutions.

III. Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and in particular with the requirements of sections 17A(b)(3) (A) and (F) of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (File No. SR-NSCC-98-06) be and hereby is approved.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>16</sup>

Margaret H. McFarland, Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-30716 Filed 11-16-98; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3146]

State of Kansas

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on November 5, 1998, and an amendment thereto on November 9, 1998, I find that Butler, Chase, Coffey, Cowley, Franklin, Harvey, Lyon, Neosho, Sedgwick, Sumner, and Wilson counties in the State of Kansas constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms and flooding which occurred beginning October 30, 1998 and continuing. Applications for loans for physical damages may be filed until the close of business on January 4, 1999, and for loans for economic injury until the close of business on August 5, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 3 Office, 4400 Amon Carter Blvd., Suite 102, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the contiguous counties of Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Crawford, Douglas, Elk, Greenwood, Harper, Kingman, Johnson, Labette, Linn, Marion, McPherson, Miami, Montgomery, Morris, Osage, Reno, Wabaunsee, and Woodson in the State of Kansas; and Grant, Kay, and Osage in the State of Oklahoma may be filed until the specified date at the above location.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere .....	6.750
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere .....	3.375
Businesses with credit available elsewhere .....	8.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere .....	4.000
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere .....	7.000
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere .....	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 314611 and for economic injury the numbers are 9A5100 for Kansas and 9A5200 for Oklahoma.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: November 10, 1998.

Bernard Kulik,

Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98-30662 Filed 11-16-98; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3145]

State of Texas; Amendment #2

In accordance with a notice from the Federal Emergency Management Agency dated November 6, 1998, the above-numbered Declaration is hereby amended to include the Counties of Atascosa, Brazoria, Galveston, Liberty, Matagorda, Nueces, and San Jacinto in the State of Texas as a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes which occurred October 17 through October 31, 1998.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the following contiguous counties may be filed until the specified date at the previously designated location: Frio, Hardin, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Kleberg, La Salle, McMullen, Polk, and Trinity in the State of Texas. Any counties contiguous to the above-named primary counties and not listed herein have been previously declared.

All other information remains the same, i.e., the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is December 19, 1998 and for economic injury the termination date is July 19, 1999.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

<sup>14</sup> On June 17, 1998, NSCC amended the proposed rule change (File No. NSCC-98-06) to include the transfer of government securities where a nominal value is specified.

<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F) (1988).

<sup>16</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Dated: November 9, 1998.

**Bernard Kulik,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 98-30663 Filed 11-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Renewal of Treatment on Government Procurement of Products from Countries Designated under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act

Under the authority delegated to me by the President in section 1-201 of Executive Order 12260 of December 31, 1980, I hereby direct that products of countries, listed below, designated by the President as beneficiaries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2701, et. seq.), shall continue to be treated as eligible products for purposes of section 1-101 of Executive Order 12260 until September 30, 1999. Additionally, products of Panama shall continue to be treated as eligible products for purposes of section 1-101 of Executive Order 12260 until September 30, 2000. Such treatment shall not apply to products originating in these countries that are excluded from duty free treatment under 19 U.S.C. 2703(b). Decisions on the subsequent renewal of this treatment beyond September 30, 1999, and September 30, 2000 for Panama, will be based on beneficiaries' efforts to improve domestic procurement practices, their support for relevant international initiatives, including in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Working Group on Transparency in Government Procurement, and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Negotiating Group on Government Procurement, including support for an FTAA Agreement on Transparency as an element of business facilitation, and on progress toward accession to the WTO Government Procurement Agreement.

**Charlene Barshefsky,**

*United States Trade Representative.*

List of Countries Designated as Beneficiary Countries for Purpose of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA):

Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, the Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the

Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts-Nevis, British Virgin Islands.

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

#### Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice lists those forms, reports, and recordkeeping requirements imposed upon the public which were transmitted by the Department of Transportation to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for its approval in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 USC Chapter 35). Section 3507 of Title 44 of the United States Code, requires that agencies prepare a notice for publication in the **Federal Register**, listing information collection request submitted to OMB for approval or renewal under that Act. OMB reviews and approves agency submissions in accordance with criteria set forth in that Act. In carrying out its responsibilities, OMB also considers public comments on the proposed forms and the reporting and recordkeeping requirements. OMB approval of an information collection requirement must be renewed at least once every three years.

The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on information collection 2120-0034 was published on September 4, 1998 (63 FR 47340).

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received on or before December 17, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Copies of the DOT information collection requests submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Judith Street, Federal Aviation Administration, Corporate Information Division, ABC-100, 800 Independence Ave., SW., (202) 267-9895, Washington, DC 20591.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

*Title:* Commuter Operations and General Certification and Operations Requirements.

*OMB Control Number:* 2120-0593.

*Form(s):* FAA Form 8400-6.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Transition of some 135 carriers to part 121 rules.

*Abstract:* The regulation requires that certain commuter operators conduct their operations under part 121 instead of part 135. Affected operators include those conducting scheduled, passenger-carrying operations with airplanes with 10-30 seats. The reporting requirements are similar but different between parts 121 and 135. This submission reflects only the additional burden associated with part 135 carriers transitioning to part 121 standards.

There will be a change to the collection of information. The transition portion of this rule is complete. However, Part 119 continues to cover new carriers and some ongoing requirements. The burden associated with the transition portion will be removed, and only burden associated with new carriers and ongoing requirements will be reflected in the updated submission.

*Estimated Burden:* The estimated total annual burden is 8,803 hours.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the DOT information collection request should be forwarded, within 30 days of publication, to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10102, Washington, D.C. 20503, ATTN: FAA Desk Officer. If you anticipate submitting substantive comments, but find that more than 10 days from the date of publication are needed to prepare them, please notify the OMB official of your intent immediately.

#### Comments Are Invited On

Whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collections; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 9, 1998.

**Phillip A. Leach,**

*Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.*

[FR Doc. 98-30688 Filed 11-16-98; 8:45 am]

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