

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-35,439 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Southwest Fashion, Inc., El Paso, Texas who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after October 29, 1998 through January 19, 2001 are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 18th day of March, 1999.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 99-7724 Filed 3-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[TA-W-35,417 & TA-W-35417A]

Stanley Fastening Systems E. Greenwich, RI and N. Kingstown, RI Including Leased Workers of Olsen Staffing Services E. Greenwich RI, and N. Kingstown, RI, Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 USC 2273) the Department of Labor issued a Certification of Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on January 19, 1999, applicable to all workers of Stanley Fastening Systems, located in E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on January 29, 1999 (64 FR 4712).

At the request of the State agency, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. New information provided by the company shows that some employees of Stanley Fastening Systems, E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island were leased from Olsten Staffing Services to produce nails at the E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island facilities. Worker separations occurred at Olsten Staffing Services as a result of workers separations at Stanley Fastening Systems, E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island.

Based on these findings, the Department is amending the certification to include workers of Olsten Staffing Services, leased to Stanley Fastening Systems, E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of

Stanley Fastening Systems adversely affected by imports.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-35,417 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Stanley Fastening Systems, E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island and leased workers of Olsten Staffing Services, E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island engaged in employment related to the production of nails for Stanley Fastening Systems, E. Greenwich and N. Kingstown, Rhode Island who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after December 10, 1997 through January 19, 2001 are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 12th day of March, 1999.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 99-7722 Filed 3-29-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[TA-W-34,567, et al.]

VF Knitwear, Inc., etc., Hillsville, Virginia; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2273) the Department of Labor issued a Notice of Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on June 8, 1998, applicable to workers of VF Knitwear, Inc. located in Hillsville, Virginia. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 1998 (63 FR 37590).

At the request of the company, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. The company reports that worker separations have occurred at the Commerce Plant, Commerce, Georgia and the Ferrum Plant, Ferrum, Virginia facilities of VF Knitwear, Inc. All workers will be separated from the Commerce, Georgia and Ferrum, Virginia locations when they close permanently in June, 1999. The workers are engaged in the production of t-shirts and fleecewear.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of VF Knitwear, Inc. adversely affected by increased imports. Accordingly, the Department is amending the certification to include workers of VF Knitwear, Inc., Commerce Plant,

Commerce, Georgia and Ferrum Plant, Ferrum, Virginia.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-34,567 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of VF Knitwear, Inc., Hillsville, Virginia (TA-W-34,567) Commerce Plant, Commerce, Georgia (TA-W-35,567B) and Ferrum Plant, Ferrum, Virginia (TA-W-34,567C) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after May 11, 1997 through June 8, 2000, are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed in Washington, D.C. this 11th day of March 1999.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 99-7733 Filed 3-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Survey of the Costs to States and Employers To Convert Existing Reports To Accommodate the Standardization and Expansion of Payroll Reporting

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed survey of States concerning estimated costs that States and employers will incur if they were to adopt the new standards being recommended by the Social Security Administration (SSA). A copy of the proposed survey follows in this document.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 1, 1999.

Written comments should:

- 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 proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

ADDRESSES: Rett Hensley, Unemployment Insurance Service, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, Room S4015, 200 Constitution Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20210; 202 219-5615 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The passage of welfare reform legislation, child support legislation and increased concern about unemployment insurance (UI) fraud and overpayments, has stimulated a movement toward adoption of a standardized payroll reporting format. In a cooperative effort to improve the welfare of children almost all States now report UI wages and benefit payments to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). The reporting began with States voluntarily reporting third quarter 1997 wages and fourth quarter 1997 benefit payments. The quarterly wage data reported from State maintained systems is already a vital source of information within the NDNH.

The NDNH, which is maintained by the Social Security Administration (SSA) on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), also stores information from W-2 forms. Unfortunately a lack of standardization in the reporting of name and social security number (SSN) information by the States makes matching the W-2 information with the State wage data difficult and diminishes the usefulness

of the information in the data base. Recently the SSA took the lead in establishing a standard for storage of name and social security information. Employers will begin using the new standards for W-2's issued in 1999 to report wages earned in 1998. Listed below are some agencies that HHS indicates may probably benefit as a result of implementation of the plan for the new standards:

- State child support agencies (parent locator systems)
- Treasury (debt collections)
- SSA (Supplemental Security Income, disability, and retirement overpayment detection)
- IRS (fraud detection, tax enforcement).
- States (fraud prevention and detection for UI, worker's compensation, Transitional Assistance for Needy Families, Foodstamps and Medicaid).

A system change of this magnitude will be very costly for some States to implement. Other States may already be using these or similar standards. The Office of Management and Budget, at the request of SSA asked the Department of Labor to include \$40 million in its Fiscal Year 2000 budget request for States to use in adopting the new standards in payroll reporting. Since the \$40 million is only a rough estimate of need, the Unemployment Insurance Service (UIS) must gather estimates from State Employment Security Agencies (SESAS) of the costs that States and their employers might expect to incur if they were to adopt the new standards. This information will produce a more accurate estimate of actual need in the event that all States implement this new standard. A survey form, which shows the standards, has been developed to assist in reporting these estimates. It is titled "Name Fields".

The survey also asks for an estimate of the cost a State agency and its employers might experience in gathering some new information concerning average wages, hours worked and the location of jobs. Having some knowledge of the potential cost of gathering this information will help in making future decisions on whether or not it is feasible to ask employers and States for this information. This second portion is titled "Labor Market Information".

II. Current Actions

This is a request for OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 (c)(2)(A)).

Agency: Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor.

Title: Survey of the Costs to States and Employers to Convert Existing Reports to Accommodate the Standardization and Expansion of Payroll Reporting.

Affected Public: State governments (State Employment Security Agencies) and employers.

Total Respondents: Fifty three State governments and, possibly, SESA-selected samples of employers.

Frequency: One time only.

Total Responses: Fifty three.

Average Time Per Response: 90 hours for "Name Fields" portion of survey. To estimate how much extra equipment and staff it will take to gather and store the additional name fields characters, each State would have to consult with its data processing units about equipment needs and programming requirements. Estimates would have to be produced, detailed and discussed. To obtain the impact on the State's employers, some discussions would need to take place with a number of employers and their data processing staff as well.

The complete the more difficult portion of the survey, "Labor Market Information", 180 hours is estimated. States will have to consider costs involved in: training employers and staff to gather and report *new data* (e.g., hours worked, weeks worked, occupational codes and FIPS codes) that they are not accustomed to working with; bringing about compliance by hiring additional staff to answer employer questions, and calling and training employers who fail to comply; and fir the purchase of additional equipment, redesigning forms and software, and hiring staff to process, store and forward the new data.

Total survey response time is estimated at 270 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 14,310 hours for 53 States.

The survey would look as follows:

Section One—Survey Concerning the Standardization of Name Fields

Please fill in the following table showing your estimate of the cost (for both your State and the employers of your State) of converting your existing system to the new standards shown below. You should assume that your State will be utilizing magnetic media to make your reports to the National Directory of New Hires.

Field	SESA's current character capability	New SSA standards field type	State's initial cost to change *	State's ongoing annual cost **	Employer's initial cost *	Employer's ongoing annual cost **	Total cost for first year
First Name	15 characters alpha					
Middle Name	15 characters alpha					
Last Name	20 characters alpha					
Suffix ***	4 characters numeric					
SSN	9 characters numeric					

* Consider the cost of additional computer storage equipment and programming.
 ** Consider the ongoing costs of entering additional data each quarter and maintaining the additional volume of records.
 *** This is an optional field, for future use by SSA. It refers to Jr. or Sr. etc., after some names.

Section Two—Survey Concerning Collecting Labor Market Information

Some agencies have requested labor market information from UIS that is not currently available on most States' Contribution and Wage Reports. Your cost estimates for providing this information is requested to facilitate long term planning for labor market information needs. There are no immediate plans to begin requesting or utilizing this additional information.

Fields on the quarterly wage report	Anticipated characters needed	State's initial cost	State's ongoing annual cost	Employer's initial cost to add	Employer's ongoing annual cost	Total cost for first year
A column showing the quarterly hours worked per employee.	3 Characters.					
A column showing the weeks worked per employee ...	2 Characters.					
A column showing the occupational code of each employee.	6 Characters.					
A column showing the FIPS code or zip code of where each worker works.	5 Characters.					

Please use this space to make any comments or observations you wish to express about the survey.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 23, 1999.

Grace A. Kilbane,
 Director, Unemployment Insurance Service.
 [FR Doc. 99-7777 Filed 3-29-99; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA-02858 & 0258A]

The Pillsbury Company, Etc.; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2273), the Department of Labor issued a Certification of Eligibility to Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance on February 11, 1998, applicable to workers of The Pillsbury

Company, Haagen-Dazs Plant located in Woodbridge, New Jersey. The notice will be published soon in the **Federal Register**.

At the request of a State agency, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. New findings show that worker separations occurred at the Haagen-Dazs Warehouse Operation of The Pillsbury Company, Dayton, New Jersey when it closed in March, 1999. The Dayton, New Jersey location provided warehousing and distribution services for The Pillsbury Company, Haagen-Dazs's production facilities including Woodbridge, New Jersey. The workers are engaged in the production of ice cream products (gallons of ice cream, stick bars, pops and sorbet).

Accordingly, the Department is amending the certification to cover the workers of The Pillsbury Company, Haagen-Dazs Warehouse Operation, Dayton, New Jersey.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of The Pillsbury Company, Haagen-Dazs who were adversely affected by a shift of production to Canada.

The amended notice applicable to NAFTA-02858 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of The Pillsbury Company, Haagen-Dazs Plant, Woodbridge, New Jersey (NAFTA-02858) and Haagen-Dazs

Warehouse Operation, Dayton, New Jersey (NAFTA-2858A) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after December 21, 1997 through February 11, 2001 are eligible to apply for NAFTA-TAA under Section 250 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, DC this 19th day of March, 1999.

Grant D. Beale,
 Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.
 [FR Doc. 99-7734 Filed 3-29-99; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA-02814]

Southwest Fashions, Inc. El Paso, TX; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for NAFTA-Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 250(A), Subchapter D, Chapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 USC 2273), the Department of Labor issued a Certification for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance on January 19, 1999, applicable to all workers of Southwest Fashion, Inc., El Paso, Texas. The notice was published in the **Federal**