

From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (65 FR 14532) of proposed addition to and deletions from the Procurement List:

Addition

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the service and impact of the addition on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the service listed below is suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the service to the Government.
2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the service.
3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.
4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the service proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following service is hereby added to the Procurement List: Parking Facility Attendant, Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, John D. Dingell VA Medical Center, 4646 John R Street, Detroit, Michigan.

This action does not affect current contracts awarded prior to the effective date of this addition or options that may be exercised under those contracts.

Deletions

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action may not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.
 2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the service.
 3. The action may result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.
 4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities deleted from the Procurement List.
- After consideration of the relevant matter presented, the Committee has determined that the commodities listed below are no

longer suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

Accordingly, the following commodities are hereby deleted from the Procurement List:

Transparency Film, Xerographic

7530-01-386-2371

Tea Mix, Instant,

8955-00-823-7016

Louis R. Bartalot,

Deputy Director (Operations).

[FR Doc. 00-10653 Filed 4-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: Technology Administration.
Title: Licensing of Government-Owned Inventions.

Agency Form Number: None.
OMB Approval Number: None.
Type of Request: Collection in use without OMB approval.

Burden: 1,200 hours.
Number of respondents: 400 Applicants.

Avg. Hours Per Response: 2 hours for applications, 15 minutes for reports.

Needs and Uses: The Bayh-Dole Act (Public Law 96-517) authorizes agencies to license their patented inventions to the public. In order to obtain a license, an application must be submitted to the agency owning the invention. The information provided (a marketing or development plan) is used by the government to negotiate the terms of the license and, when necessary, to choose between competing applications. Once awarded, the license holder must provide utilization reports. These are used by the government to ensure that the awardee is in compliance with the terms of the license.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations, not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: On occasion, annually.
Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier,

DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5027, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: April 20, 2000.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-10577 Filed 4-27-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Shipper's Export Declaration Program

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Jerome Greenwell, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 3125, Federal Office Building No. 3, Washington, DC 20233-0001, 301-457-2238.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Shipper's Export Declaration (SEDs), Forms 7525-V, 7525-V-Alternate (Intermodal), and the electronic equivalent, the Automated Export System (AES) are the basis for the official export trade statistics compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau (Census Bureau). Title 13, United States Code, Chapter 9, Sections 301-307

authorizes the collection of all these data. Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 30 contains the regulatory provisions for preparing and filing the SED or the AES record. The Census Bureau has the primary responsibility for the collection, compilation and publication of the official statistics on U.S. exports used for determining the balance of trade, a principal economic indicator. These data are essential in formulating basic government policy decisions affecting the economy. U.S. businesses rely heavily on these data to develop export leads, export marketing strategies and assessing the impact of exports on the domestic economy.

The statistical information on the SED or the AES record shows what is being exported (description and commodity classification number), how much (quantity, gross weight and value), how it is being exported (mode of transportation, exporting carrier and whether containerized), from where (state of origin, and port of export), to where (port of unloading and country of ultimate destination), and when (date of exportation). The identification of the exporter, forwarding agent, and consignee provide contacts for verification of the statistical information. The Census Bureau uses every data element on the SED/AES record for statistical purposes only. Other Government agencies may use the SED/AES information for export control purposes, and/or to obtain trade information to avoid conducting additional surveys.

The SED/AES records are also used for export control purposes under Title 50, United States Code and are used to detect and prevent the export of certain commodities (for example, high technology or military goods) to unauthorized destinations or end users. The SED/AES records, as official documents or export transactions, enable the U.S. Customs Service (Customs) and the Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) to enforce the Customs and Export Administration Regulations and thereby detect and prevent the export of high technology commodities to unauthorized destinations. The Department of State uses the SED/AES information to enforce the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) to detect and prevent the export of arms and ammunition to unauthorized destinations.

In the past, each different type of paper SED was cleared separately. In recent years the number of submissions via automated programs, the Automated Export Reporting Program (AERP)

operated by the Census Bureau and the new Automated Export System operated jointly by the Census Bureau and Customs, have grown rapidly and are now considered as part of SED submissions. With the rapid growth of the AES, the Census Bureau discontinued the AERP program as of December 31, 1999. Filers using the AERP program, which was strictly used for Census Bureau statistical collection purposes, are now filing their information through the AES, paper documents, or are in the process of converting to the AES.

The authority for clearance of the Shipper's Export Declaration for In-Transit Goods, Form 7513, which serves as the source document from which the official U.S. statistics on outbound in-transit waterborne shipments is collected and compiled has been transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). This program was transferred to the Corps, as they are the primary users of the in-transit data.

With this submission the Census Bureau is requesting clearance for the reporting of export data: (1) using the two types of paper SEDs, Form 7525-V and Form 7525-V Alternate (Intermodal); and (2) through the AES. The Census Bureau is eliminating clearances for the AERP program and for the in-transit Form 7513, which were included in our previous submission.

II. Method of Collection

A paper SED or electronic AES record is required for all export shipments valued over \$2,500 from the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The SED or AES record is also required for all licensed shipments, (i.e. State Department or Bureau of Export Administration export licenses) regardless of value. The SED program is unique among Census Bureau statistical collections since it is not sent to respondents soliciting responses as is the case in surveys. Filing the SED/AES information is mandatory under Title 13, Chapter 9 of the United States Code. Over 5.5 million paper SEDs, over 2.5 million automated AES records and over 5.5 million automated AERP records were submitted in 1999. In addition, data for over 63,000 exporters has been filed by participants in AES and AERP during 1999. For this reason the Census Bureau attempts to avoid frequent changes in data content and format. The paper SEDs have been in continuous use since 1985 with minor revisions in 1988. The AES format has been in use since 1995 and the format has been approved by the trade community through a series of Interest Based Negotiation meetings. Exporters

can purchase the paper SEDs or they may have them privately printed. They can also download the SED forms over the Internet and print them on the required "buff" colored paper.

For this submission, the Census Bureau is planning revisions to the paper SED forms to bring them up to date with current regulatory and policy changes reflected by the implementation of the AES. The changes include: (1) Revising box 1a (7525-V) and box 2 (7525-V-ALT) to read "Exporter (U.S. Principal Party In Interest)" (2) revising box 1b (7525-V) and box 7 (7525-V-ALT) to read "Exporter's EIN (IRS) or ID No."; (3) adding an "M" indicator code to box 16 (7525-V) and box 23 (7525-V-ALT) for Foreign Military Sales Shipments; (4) deleting the check digit field on both forms, and replacing it with a field for the Export Information Code ("EIC"); (5) revising box 21 (7525-V) and box 27 (7525-V-ALT) to read "License No./License Exception Symbol/Authorization"; (6) adding a box for a "Carrier Identification" Code (i.e. SCAC/IATA code); (7) adding a box for "Shipment Reference Number"; (8) adding a box for the "In Bond" number; (9) adding a box for a Hazardous Material Indicator; (10) adding a box for "Used Vehicle Identification No."; (11) adding a box for "Vehicle Title No."; and (12) adding a box for "Entry No." for bonded shipments. All changes to the paper SED format are also applicable to the AES format. These additional items are conditional data elements and will not be reported for all transactions. Therefore, we do not estimate these revisions will increase response time.

Exporters or their agents file individual paper SEDs with the exporting carriers at the time that each export shipment leaves the United States. For AES, exporters or their agents file the export data electronically directly with the U.S. Customs Service, according to the filing provisions established in Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 30, Subpart E, "Electronic Filing Requirements—Shipper's Export Information". The carriers submit the paper SED documents to Customs officials when the carrier departs the United States and Customs then transmits the SEDs to the Census Bureau on a flow basis for statistical processing. For AES, the Census Bureau extracts export data files from the Customs AES, for statistical processing.

For exports to Canada, the United States is substituting Canadian import statistics for U.S. exports to Canada in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by both Customs and statistical agencies in both

countries. Similarly, under this MOU, Canada is substituting U.S. import statistics for Canadian exports to the United States. These data exchanges eliminate the requirement for U.S. exporters to file any information with the U.S. government. This results in the elimination of over four million SEDs annually. However, for exports to Canada that require a license, a SED or AES record must be filed. Also, a SED or AES record is required for exports from the United States through Canada destined to a country other than Canada.

In addition, the Census Bureau and Customs are continuing to implement and expand the use of the AES for filing shipper's export information electronically. The AES provides a voluntary automated alternative to filing the paper SED. Extensive outreach and education efforts have been and continue to be made to encourage the trade community to use the AES for filing its export data. The Census Bureau has implemented the AESDirect system to allow AES filers to file their export information directly to AES via the Internet. The Census Bureau anticipates a gradual and progressive growth in the number of electronic filers, with a comparable decrease in the number of paper filers over the course of the next few years.

During the past several years the Census Bureau and Customs have also been involved in an intensive outreach and education program to improve compliance with Customs and Census Bureau regulatory provisions in reference to filing Customs manifest documents and the Census Bureau SED/AES documents/records. During these compliance programs, the Census Bureau and Customs conducted seminars with the trade community to inform them of the regulatory filing requirements. In addition, Customs has also increased its enforcement effort for those filers not in compliance with the export laws and regulations. This compliance effort, in addition to the outreach and education effort encouraging the use of electronic filing through the AES has led to a significant increase in both paper and electronic filings. Also, with the expansion of the global economy and the increased emphasis on international trade, the Census Bureau has experienced a significant increase in the number of export transactions being filed. For example, in 1993 the Census Bureau received 1.1 million transactions per month. In 1999 the Census Bureau received 1.7 million transactions per month. This represents an increase of 55 percent in the number of monthly transactions processed by the Census

Bureau. The Census Bureau expects this trend to continue for the next several years. All these factors combined, have resulted in an increase in our estimate of annual responses from the previous submission.

In summary, for non-Canadian exports, approximately 55 percent of export transactions are reported electronically using the AES, and approximately 45 percent of export transactions are reported using the paper SEDs. The Census Bureau expects the percentage of electronic filings through the AES to substantially increase during the next several years.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0152.

Form Number: 7525-V, 7525-V-Alternate (Intermodal), Automated Export System (AES) submissions.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Exporters, Forwarding Agents, Export Carriers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200,000.

Estimated Number of Responses: 13,449,996..

Estimated Time Per Response: 11.166 minutes for 7525-V, 7525-V-Alternate 3.0 minutes for AES submissions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,284,949.

SEDs, 837,450.

AES, 447,499.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$19,274,235.

SEDs—837,450 hrs @ \$15/hr = \$12,561,750.

AES—447,499 hrs @ \$15/hr = \$6,712,485.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Chapter 9.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 25, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) Survey

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Lee Wentela, Bureau of the Census, FOB #4 Room 2232, Washington, DC 20233-6913 and (301) 457-4832.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to submit the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey to the Office of Management and Budget for review. The M3 requests data from domestic manufacturers on form M-3(SD). The survey is mailed at the end of each month. Data requested are shipments, new orders, unfilled orders, total inventory, materials and supplies, work-in-process, and finished goods. It is currently the only survey that provides broad-based monthly statistical data on the economic conditions in the domestic manufacturing sector.

The M3 survey is designed to measure current industrial activity and to provide an indication of future production commitments. The value of