

batch of product made. If the proprietor elects to use this option, the proprietor must determine the permanent standard effective tax rate based on the least quantity and the lowest alcohol content of eligible wine or eligible flavors used to manufacture the product. Thus, the permanent standard effective tax rate is the highest tax rate that would apply to the product because it is based on a batch with the least amount of alcohol from eligible wine and flavors that qualify for the credit under 26 U.S.C. 5010. By using this method the proprietor forgoes the possible use of a lower tax rate in exchange for the convenience of using a permanent standard effective tax rate that does not have to be recomputed for each batch of product made. The proprietor must keep a permanent record of the standard effective tax rates established for each product, in accordance with § 19.615.

(b) *Batches subject to a higher tax rate.* Whenever the proprietor manufactures a batch of the product with a lesser quantity or lower alcohol content of eligible wine or eligible flavor, this will result in a higher tax rate on the product since the product will have less alcohol qualifying for the credit under 26 U.S.C. 5010 and a higher percentage of alcohol taxable at the rate published in 26 U.S.C. 5001. In such instances, the proprietor must keep the cased goods segregated from other completed cases of the same product subject to the permanent standard effective tax rate for that product. The proprietor must determine the tax rate for the non-standard batch in accordance with § 19.247.

(c) *TTB review of standard tax rates.* If the appropriate TTB officer finds that the use of this procedure jeopardizes the revenue, or causes administrative difficulty, the proprietor upon notification from TTB must discontinue use of this procedure.

(26 U.S.C. 5010, 5207)

§ 19.249 Average effective tax rate.

(a) *Establishing an average tax rate.* The proprietor may establish an average effective tax rate for any eligible distilled spirits product based on the total proof gallons in all batches of the same composition which have been pro-

duced during the preceding 6-month period and which have been or will be bottled or packaged, in whole or in part, for domestic consumption. At the beginning of each month, the proprietor must recompute the average effective tax rate so as to include only the immediately preceding 6-month period. The proprietor must show the average tax rate established for a product in the record of average effective tax rates as prescribed in § 19.613.

(b) *TTB review of average effective tax rates.* If the appropriate TTB officer finds that the use of this procedure jeopardizes the revenue, or causes administrative difficulty, the proprietor upon notification from TTB must discontinue use of this procedure.

(26 U.S.C. 5010, 5207)

§ 19.250 Inventory reserve account.

(a) The proprietor may establish an inventory reserve account for any eligible distilled spirits product by maintaining an inventory reserve record as prescribed by § 19.614. The effective tax rate applied to each removal or other disposition will be the effective tax rate recorded on the inventory reserve record from which the removal or other disposition is depleted. With an inventory reserve account, the proprietor will tax pay removals on a first-in first-out basis regardless of which lot of product is actually removed.

(b) If the appropriate TTB officer finds that the use of this procedure jeopardizes the revenue, or causes administrative difficulty, the proprietor upon notification from TTB must discontinue use of this procedure.

(26 U.S.C. 5010, 5207)

ASSESSMENT OF TAXES BY TTB

§ 19.253 Assessment of tax on spirits not accounted for or reported.

The proprietor is required by law to properly account for and report all spirits that it produces. TTB will assess the proprietor for the tax on the difference between the quantity reported and the quantity actually produced.

(26 U.S.C. 5006)