

route extending from Kansas City, MO to Shreveport, LA. This project is one of several projects identified as "high priority corridors" on the National Highway System that would provide a transportation corridor of national significance from Kansas City to Shreveport. The proposed improvements will draw new traffic through western Arkansas and serve as both a short-term and long-term economic stimulus, promoting development in this currently rural area.

The northern terminus of the proposed improvements will connect to Interstate 40 near Fort Smith, AR. The southern terminus will connect with the proposed improvements of U.S. 71 near DeQueen, AR, for which an EIS is currently being prepared.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been sent to appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in this project. A series of public meetings will be held within the study area beginning in the summer of 1995, with on-going public involvement activities. Scoping meetings with local officials and State and Federal resource agencies will also be held during the summer of 1995. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to a public hearing. Public notice will be given of the time and place for all meetings and hearings.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed project are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: July 12, 1995.

Wendall L. Meyer,

Environmental and Design Specialist, FHWA, Little Rock, AR.

[FR Doc. 95-17561 Filed 7-17-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. 95-30; Notice 2]

Decision that Nonconforming 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL Passenger Cars are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the 1992 Mercedes-Benz 500SL, and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: The decision is effective as of July 18, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition.

At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

Northern California Diagnostics Laboratory, Inc. of Napa, California (Registered Importer R-92-011) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition on May 1, 1995 (60 FR 21238) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition. No comments were received in response to the notice. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

Vehicle Eligibility Number of Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-121 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this notice of final decision.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that a 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL (Model ID 129.076) is substantially similar to a 1992 Mercedes-Benz 500SL originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141 (a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: July 13, 1995.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 95-17634 Filed 7-17-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-M

[Docket No. 95-52; Notice 1]

Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 1992

Mercedes-Benz 300CE passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that a 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE that was not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards is eligible for importation into the United States because (1) it is substantially similar to a vehicle that was originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and that was certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and (2) it is capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATE: The closing date for comments on the petition is August 17, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Section, Room 5109, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 9:30 am to 4 pm].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i)(I) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has

received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

J.K. Motors of Kingsville, Maryland ("J.K.") (Registered Importer 90-006) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE (Model ID 124.050 and 124.061) passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicle which J.K. believes is substantially similar is the 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE that was manufactured for importation into, and sale in, the United States and certified by its manufacturer, Daimler Benz A.G., as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared the non-U.S. certified 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE to its U.S. certified counterpart, and found the two vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

J.K. submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that the non-U.S. certified 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE, as originally manufactured, conforms to many Federal motor vehicle safety standards in the same manner as its U.S. certified counterpart, or is capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that the non-U.S. certified 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE is identified to its U.S. certified counterpart with respect to compliance with Standards Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence*, * * *. 103 *Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 105 *Hydraulic Brake Systems*, 106 *Brake Hoses*, 107 *Reflecting Surfaces*, 109 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 113 *Hod Latch Systems*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 201 *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*, 202 *Head Restraints*, 203 *Impact Protection for the Driver From the Steering Control System*, 204 *Steering Control Rearward Displacement*, 205 *Glazing Materials*, 206 *Door Locks and Door Retention Components*, 207 *Seating Systems*, 209 *Seat Belt Assemblies*, 210 *Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages*, 211 *Wheel Nuts, Wheel Discs and Hubcaps*, 212 *Windshield Retention*, 216 *Roof Crush Resistance*, 219 *Windshield Zone Intrusion*, 301 *Fuel System Integrity*, and 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*.

Additionally, the petitioner states that the non-U.S. certified 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE complies with the Bumper Standard found in 49 CFR part 581.

Petitioner also contends that the vehicle is capable of being readily

altered to meet the following standards, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 101 *Controls and Displays*: (a) Substitution of a lens marked "Brake" for a lens with an ECE symbol on the brake failure indicator lamp; (b) recalibration of the speedometer/odometer from kilometers to miles per hour.

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: (a) Installation of U.S.-model headlamps and front sidemakers; (b) installation of U.S.-model taillamp assemblies which incorporate rear sidemarkers; (c) installation of a high mounted stop lamp assembly.

Standard No. 110 *Tire Selection and Rims*: Installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 111 *Rearview Mirror*: replacement of the passenger side rearview mirror with a U.S.-model component.

Standard No. 114 *Theft Protection*: Installation of a warning buzzer microswitch and a warning buzzer in the steering lock assembly.

Standard No. 115 *Vehicle Identification Number*: Installation of a VIN plate that can be read from outside the left windshield pillar, and a VIN reference label on the edge of the door or latch post nearest the driver.

Standard No. 118 *Power Window Systems*: Installation of a relay on the power window system so that the window transport is inoperative when the ignition is switched off.

Standard No. 208 *Occupant Crash Protection*: (a) Installation of a seat belt warning buzzer, wired to the seat belt latch; (b) installation of knee bolsters to augment the vehicle's air bag based passive restraint system, which otherwise conforms to the standard. The petitioner stated that the vehicle is equipped with lap and shoulder belts in the front and rear outboard seating positions, and with a lap belt in the rear center seating position.

Standard No. 214 *Side Impact Protection*: installation of reinforcing beams.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Section, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room 5109, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before

and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141 (a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: July 13, 1995.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 95-17635 Filed 7-17-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Culturally Significant Objects Imported For Exhibition; Determination

Notice is hereby given of the following determination: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978 (43 FR 13359, March 29, 1978), and Delegation Order No. 85-5 of June 27, 1985 (50 FR 27393, July 2, 1985), I hereby determine that those objects to be included in the exhibit "House of Style" (See list¹) which are imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign lender. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the listed exhibit objects at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland, Ohio, from on or about September 1, 1995 through on or about September 1, 1997, is in the national interest. Public Notice of this determination is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: July 11, 1995.

Les Jin,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 95-17583 Filed 7-17-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

Voice of America; Development Office; VOA Computerized Pronunciation Guide Project Development

ACTION: Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Voice of America Office of Development announces a

¹ A copy of this list may be obtained by contacting Lorie J. Nierenberg, Assistant General Counsel, at 202/619-6084; the address is Room 700, U.S. Information Agency, 301-4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547-0001

solicitation for proposals to participate with VOA in technical development and commercial marketing of the VOA Pronunciation Guide, a computerized digital audio pronunciation reference system. The system provides current and authoritative pronunciation of names, places and things found in international news reports. VOA has completed concept and initial design. The Guide is suitable for commercial marketing to media, business, home, government and educational organizations in the United States and abroad as an on-line service, network or stand-alone service. Applicants must demonstrate hardware and software expertise and competency in addition to marketing capability. Organizations should suggest options for cooperation with VOA in terms of cash benefits, cost sharing, provision of goods or services or exchanges in kind.

Overall authority for VOA to solicit proposals is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256 as amended, also known as the Fullbright-Hays Act, and The U.S. Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended, known as the Smith-Mundt Act. Proposals must conform to requirements and guidelines outlined in the Solicitation Package.

ANNOUNCEMENT NAME AND NUMBER: All communications with VOA concerning this announcement should refer to the above title and reference number B/VOA-95-1.

DATES: Deadline for proposal: All copies must be received at VOA by 5 p.m. Washington time on Friday October 13, 1995. Faxes documents will not be accepted, nor will documents postmarked on Friday, October 13, 1995, but received on a later date. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that proposals are received by the above deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Voice of America Development Office, Room 3340, 330 Independence Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20547, telephone: 202-401-8526, FAX: 202-401-2374, Email: mkennedyusia.gov. to request a solicitation package which includes more detailed award criteria, all application forms, and guidelines for preparing proposals. For specific questions or concerns regarding the solicitation, contact VOA Senior Development Officer Margaret Kennedy. Interested applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before addressing inquiries to VOA or submitting their proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, representatives of the VOA may

not discuss the competition in any way with applicants until after the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

ADDRESSES: Applicants must follow all instructions given in the Solicitation Package and send only complete applications to: Voice of America, Ref.: B/VOA-95-1, Office of Development, Room 3340, 330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Overview

VOA is the preeminent authority on the pronunciation of foreign names and places for American media. VOA seeks assistance to complete its interactive, digital audio system to provide its professional staff with fast and accurate pronunciations for international names commonly found in international news. This system provides users with precise visual and audio guidance using a specially-designed international phonetic alphabet and spoken pronunciations by VOA's language experts. The prototype currently in use at VOA uses Foxpro for Windows with a SoundBlaster 16 sound card and runs on a stand-alone IBM compatible computer. With modification, it could run on Macintosh or a network. VOA's current index has 50,000 entries updated daily. The guide provides text references for honorifics, second reference and other useful information. The index can be expanded and tailored for specialized needs.

Guidelines

This solicitation is for a proposal for joint creation of a commercial reference system based on the prototype currently in use at VOA. VOA maintains the integrity of the data base on a 24 hour basis through the expertise of its own editors and language experts.

A proposal should clearly state how the applicant would work with VOA to develop hardware and software to facilitate commercial access to the VOA Pronunciation Guide. Proposals may include an on line service, network and/or stand-alone product.

Proposals should address hardware options to implement practical data entry, storage and retrieval, compression system and software as well as project management. Proposals should include geographical marketing areas. Applicants should refer to the Program Objectives, Goals and Implementation section of the Solicitation Package for greater detail regarding special conditions and other program information.