

some other manner. Button tags, string tags and other hang tags, paper labels and other similar methods of marking are not acceptable. The proposed change set forth herein would evaluate the marking of such wearing apparel on a case-by-case basis in order to determine whether the requirements of 19 U.S.C. 1304 are satisfied.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 16, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments (preferably in triplicate) may be addressed to the Regulations Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs Service, Franklin Court, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20229. Comments submitted may be inspected at the Regulations Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs Service, Franklin Court, 1099 14th Street NW., Suite 4000, Washington, D.C.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Monika Rice, Special Classification and Marking Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings (202-482-6980).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1304), provides that, unless excepted, every article of foreign origin (or its container) imported into the U.S. shall be marked in a conspicuous place as legibly, indelibly, and permanently as the nature of the article (or its container) will permit, in such a manner as to indicate to the ultimate purchaser in the U.S. the English name of the country of origin of the article. Part 134, Customs Regulations (19 CFR part 134), implements the country of origin marking requirements and exceptions of 19 U.S.C. 1304.

The primary purpose of the country of origin marking statute is to "mark the goods so that at the time of purchase the ultimate purchaser may, by knowing where the goods were produced, be able to buy or refuse to buy them, if such marking should influence his will." *United States v. Friedlaender & Co.*, 27 CCPA 297, 302, C.A.D. 104 (1940). The clear language of section 1304 requires "permanent" and "conspicuous" marking, and to this end 19 CFR 134.41 provides, in part, that the degree of permanence should be at least sufficient to insure that in any reasonably foreseeable circumstance, the marking shall remain on the article until it reaches the ultimate purchaser unless it is deliberately removed, and that the ultimate purchaser in the U.S. must be able to find the marking easily and read it without strain.

In T.D. 54640(6), 93 Treas. Dec. 301 (1958), Customs determined that on and after October 1, 1958, wearing apparel, such as shirts, blouses, coats, sweaters, etc., must be legibly and conspicuously marked with the name of the country of origin by means of a fabric label or label made from natural or synthetic film sewn or otherwise permanently affixed on the inside center of the neck midway between the shoulder seams or in that immediate area or otherwise permanently marked in that area in some other manner. Button tags, string tags and other hang tags, paper labels and other similar methods of marking were not considered acceptable after October 1, 1958. The requirement in T.D. 54640(6) that the country of origin marking should appear on the inside center of the neck midway between the shoulder seams or in that immediate area is consistent with the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act as enforced by the Federal Trade Commission.

Subsequently, T.D. 55015(4), 95 Treas. Dec. 3 (1960), extended T.D. 54640(6), to allow the country of origin marking of reversible garments to be looped around the hanger. On the basis of this extension, Customs has allowed ladies reversible jackets to be marked with a cardboard hang tag affixed to the neck area by means of a plastic anchor tag. Customs noted that since the jacket was reversible, a fabric label sewn into the jacket could damage the jacket when the label was removed. Headquarters Ruling Letter (HRL) 731513 dated November 15, 1988. Similarly, in HRL 733890 dated December 31, 1990, Customs allowed women's reversible silk tank tops to be marked with a cloth label, showing the country of origin and other pertinent information sewn into a lower side seam, and a hang tag which also provided the required information attached at the neck. See also HRL 734889 dated June 22, 1993.

In order to allow more flexibility in achieving the objectives of the marking statute, Customs is now proposing to change its position and modify that portion of T.D. 54640(6) relating to the requirement of a fabric label or label made from natural or synthetic film sewn to the article, and the disallowance of button tags, string tags and other hang tags, paper labels and other similar methods of marking. Rather, Customs proposes to evaluate the country of origin marking of wearing apparel, such as shirts, blouses, coats, sweaters, etc., on a case-by-case basis to determine if it is conspicuous, legible, indelible, and permanent to a degree sufficient enough to remain on the shirt until it reaches the ultimate purchaser. The portion of T.D. 54640(6) relating to

the requirement of placing the country of origin marking at the inside center of the neck of a shirt midway between the shoulder seams or in that immediate area, shall remain in effect.

It should be noted that this proposed change in practice does not exempt textile fiber products imported into the U.S. from the labeling requirements of the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act enforced by the Federal Trade Commission.

Authority

This notice is published in accordance with § 177.9, Customs Regulations (19 CFR 177.9).

Comments

Before adopting this proposed change in position, consideration will be given to any written comments timely submitted to Customs. Comments submitted will be available for public inspection in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), § 1.4, Treasury Department Regulations (31 CFR 1.4), and § 103.11(b), Customs Regulations (19 CFR 103.11(b)), on regular business days between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Regulations Branch, Franklin Court, 1099 14th Street NW., Suite 4000, Washington, DC.

George J. Weise,
Commissioner of Customs.

Approved: October 24, 1995.

Dennis M. O'Connell,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 95-28265 Filed 11-15-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

Fiscal Service

1996 Fee Schedule for the Transfer of U.S. Treasury Book-Entry Securities Held at Federal Reserve Banks

AGENCY: Bureau of the Public Debt, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury is announcing the schedule of fees to be charged in 1996 on the transfer of book-entry Treasury securities between depository institution accounts maintained at Federal Reserve Banks and Branches, as well as transfers to and from Federal Reserve Bank accounts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carl M. Locken, Jr., Assistant
Commissioner (Financing), Bureau of

the Public Debt, Room 534, E Street Building, Washington, D.C. 20239-0001, telephone (202) 219-3350.

Diane M. Polowczuk, Government Securities Specialist, Bureau of the Public Debt, Room 534, E Street Building, Washington, D.C. 20239-0001, telephone (202) 219-3350.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 1, 1985, the Department of the Treasury established a fee schedule for the transfer of Treasury book-entry securities between one book-entry account to another book-entry account of the same depository institution, and between the accounts of one depository institution and the accounts of another depository institution that maintain their accounts at Federal Reserve Banks and Branches. This fee schedule also applies to the book-entry transfer of securities between depository institution accounts and Federal Reserve Bank accounts.

Based on the latest review of book-entry costs and volumes, the Treasury has decided that the fees for securities transfers in 1996 should remain unchanged from the levels currently in effect.

The fees described in this notice apply only to the transfer of Treasury book-entry securities. The Federal Reserve System assesses the fees to recover the costs associated with the processing of the funds component of Treasury book-entry transfer messages, as well as the costs of providing book-entry services for Government agencies. Information concerning book-entry transfers of government agency securities, which are priced by the Federal Reserve System, is set out in a separate notice published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The following is the Treasury fee schedule that will be effective January 1, 1996, for the Treasury book-entry transfer service:

1996 FEE SCHEDULE

	Cost per transfer
On-line transfers originated	\$1.65
On-line reversal transfers received	1.65
Off-line transfers originated	9.40
Off-line transfers received	9.40
Off-line reversal transfers received	9.40

Gerald Murphy,
Fiscal Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-28289 Filed 11-13-95; 1:59 pm]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-P

[Dept. Circ. 570, 1995 Rev., Supp. No. 3]

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds; Redomestication; Pacific Insurance Company, Limited

Pacific Insurance Company, Limited, has redomesticated from the state of Hawaii to the state of Connecticut effective January 26, 1995. This was accomplished through a merger with Pacific Insurance Company of Connecticut, Hartford, Connecticut, and a simultaneous name change to Pacific Insurance Company, Limited. The company was last listed as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds at 60 FR 34445, July 1, 1995.

Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 1995 revision, on page 34445 to reflect this change in state of incorporation.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Funds Management Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F04, Hyattsville, MD 20782, telephone (FTS) 202-874-6507.

Dated: November 8, 1995.

Charles F. Schwan III,

Director, Funds Management Division, Financial Management Service.

[FR Doc. 95-28349 Filed 11-15-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Central and Eastern European Training Program

ACTION: Notice; request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3)-1 may apply to develop training programs in the areas of (1) local government/public administration, (2) independent media development, and (3) business administration. These projects should link the U.S. organization's international exchange interests with counterpart institutions and groups in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual

Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world."

The funding authority for the program cited above is provided through the Fulbright-Hayes Act.

Programs and projects must conform with Agency requirements and guidelines outlined in the Solicitation Package. USIA projects and programs are subject to the availability of funds.

Announcement Title and Number: All communications with USIA concerning this announcement should refer to the above title and reference number E/P-96-17.

Deadline for Proposals: All copies must be received at the U.S. Information Agency by 5 p.m. Washington, D.C. time on Friday, January 12, 1996. Faxed documents will not be accepted, nor will documents postmarked January 12, 1996, but received at a later date. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that proposals are received by the above deadline. CEETP-6 grant activity should begin after July 15, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact the Office of Citizen Exchanges, European Division, E/PE, Room 216, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547, telephone: 202-619-5319, fax: 202-619-4530, e-mail address: (cminer@usia.gov) to request a Solicitation Package containing more detailed award criteria, required application forms, and standard guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget.

VIA INTERNET: The Solicitation Package may be downloaded from USIA's website at <http://www.usia.gov/> or from the Internet Gopher at gopher.usia.gov, under "New RFPs on Educational and Cultural Exchanges."

Please specify USIA Program Officer Christina Miner on all inquiries and correspondence. Interested applicants should read the complete Federal Register announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once