

The Sony plant (1.2 mil. sq. ft. on 80 acres) consists of three sites in Dothan, Alabama: Site 1 (77 acres)—4275 Main Street; Site 2 (3.3 acres)—135 Woodburn Drive; and, Site 3 (1.6 acres)—921 Tate Drive. The facilities (1,100 employees) currently are used to produce magnetic media products for the recording of audio and video signals and digital information, including audio tape cassettes, video tape cassettes, 3.5-inch computer floppy disks and computer data tape. The plant may also be used to produce a lithium ion battery and recharger system. Some 50 percent of the products are exported.

Foreign-sourced materials and components for the media products (accounting for some 15% of final product value) include carbon, corundum, chromium and iron compounds, acyclic monocarboxylic acids, amine-function compounds, nitrogen compounds, coloring matter, paints, styrene, acrylic polymers, polyacetals, resins, silicones, cellulose, plastics, packing materials, fasteners, steel springs, articles of iron or steel, and prepared unrecorded media.

Foreign-sourced materials related to the proposed battery/recharger production would include transformers, batteries, capacitors, resistors, printed circuits, diodes, semiconductors, consoles, electrical apparatus, wire and battery parts.

Zone procedures would exempt Sony from Customs duty payments on foreign materials used in export production. On its domestic sales, the company would be able to choose the duty rates that apply to the finished products (zero to 8.7%), rather than the duty rates that would otherwise apply to the foreign material and components (zero to 18.6%). The application indicates that the savings from zone procedures would help improve the Sony plant's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been appointed examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is January 29, 1996. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to February 13, 1996).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

Customs Service Port Director's Office,
150 N. Royal Street, Suite 3004,
Mobile, Alabama 36602
Office of the Executive Secretary,
Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S.
Department of Commerce, Room
3716, 14th & Pennsylvania Avenue,
NW., Washington, DC 20230

Dated: November 21, 1995.

John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,
Executive Secretary.

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[Docket 77-95]

Foreign-Trade Zone 168—Fort Worth, TX; Application for Expansion

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Dallas/Fort Worth Maquila Trade Development Corporation, grantee of FTZ 168, requesting authority to expand its zone in the Fort Worth, Texas, area, within the Dallas/Fort Worth Customs port of entry. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR Part 400). It was formally filed on November 21, 1995.

FTZ 168 was approved on November 1, 1990 (Board Order 491, 55 FR 46974, 11/8/90) and reorganized in 1992 and 1994. The zone currently consists of three sites in the Fort Worth, Texas, area:

Site 1 (24 acres)—an industrial area at Alta Mesa and Will Rogers Boulevards, Fort Worth;

Site 2 (263 acres)—within the Centreport Industrial Development, south of DFW International Airport, Fort Worth;

Site 3 (195 acres) within the Fossil Creek Business Park, I-35W and I-820, Fort Worth.

The applicant is now requesting authority to expand the zone to include an additional site (91 acres) at the Regency Business Park (currently under development), located along Post & Paddock Road, Grand Prairie, Texas. The park is owned by Champion Partners, Ltd., and zone services will be provided by the FTZ Operating Company of Texas.

No specific manufacturing requests are being made at this time. Such requests would be made to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is January 29, 1996. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to February 13, 1996).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

Office of the Port Director, U.S. Customs Service, 1205 Royal Lane, Irving, Texas 75261

Office of the Executive Secretary,
Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S.
Department of Commerce, Room
3716, 14th & Pennsylvania Avenue,
NW., Washington, DC 20230

Dated: November 21, 1995.

John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,
Executive Secretary.

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[Docket 76-95]

Foreign-Trade Zone 41—Milwaukee, WI; Application To Remove Time Limit Western Publishing Company, Inc. (Children's Books); Milwaukee, Wisconsin Area

A request has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Foreign Trade Zone of Wisconsin, Ltd., grantee of FTZ 41, requesting removal of the time limit contained in Board Order 639 which authorized Western Publishing Company, Inc., to conduct processing activity within FTZ 41, Milwaukee, Wisconsin area. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on November 20, 1995.

The FTZ Board authorized Western Publishing Company, Inc., to assemble children's books under zone procedures within FTZ 41 in 1993 subject to a 3-year time limit (Board Order 639, 58 FR 30144, 5/26/93). The activity involves attaching foreign-sourced sound pads to domestically printed children's books.

Zone procedures exempt Western Publishing from the payment of Customs duties on foreign merchandise used in books assembled for export. On its domestic sales, zone procedures allow the company to choose the duty-free rate that applies to books instead of