

participants in this prototype; however, a limited number of participants will be selected. This prototype will be limited to 25 Reconciliations, due to the minimal automated programming available to support this test. We stress that those applicants not selected for participation, and any interested parties, are invited to comment on the design, conduct, and evaluation of this prototype. Participants selected will be notified in writing. The list of participants will be made available on the Customs Electronic Bulletin Board and the Administrative Message System.

III. Test Evaluation Criteria

Once participants are selected, Customs and the participants will meet to review all public comments received concerning any aspect of the test program or procedures, finalize procedures in light of those comments, form problem-solving teams, and establish baseline measures and evaluation methods and criteria. Interim evaluations of the prototype will be published on the Customs Electronic Bulletin Board, and the results of the final prototype evaluation will be published in the Federal Register as required by 19 CFR 101.9(b). The following evaluation methods and criteria have been suggested:

1. Baseline measurements to be established through dataqueries and questionnaires;
2. Reports to be run through use of dataquery throughout the prototype; and
3. Questionnaires from both trade and Customs participants to be used before, during, and after the prototype period. Preliminary suggestions for evaluation criteria are workload impact (workload shifts, cycle time, etc.), cost savings (staff, interest, issuance of fewer checks or bills, tracking refunds or bills, reduction in contingent liabilities, etc.), policy and procedural accommodation, trade compliance impact, problem solving and system efficiency.

Customs will request that test participants be active in the evaluation, identifying costs and savings experienced in this prototype.

Customs intends to conduct several prototypes of the reconciliation component of the NCAP. These tests will determine the system and operational design of reconciliation which will allow all filers to participate in this type of entry process at a national level. At this time, how the final reconciliation program will operate is unknown. Prototype participants must recognize that these are true prototypes to test the benefits and potential problems of reconciliation for Customs, the trade community, and

other parties impacted by this program. It is important to note that time and money spent on these prototypes may not carry forward to the final program.

The next reconciliation prototype is tentatively scheduled to commence no sooner than January, 1997. This subsequent prototype will continue to address operational impact and procedures, and begin addressing additional systemic needs. This prototype is intended to include AD/CVD, as well as other issues which lend themselves to processing by reconciliation. The experience gained from the reconciliation prototype for AD/CVD transactions will be incorporated into subsequent prototypes.

Dated: May 6, 1996.

Samuel H. Banks,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.

[FR Doc. 96-11734 Filed 5-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

[T.D. 96-38]

Tuna Fish—Tariff-Rate Quota

AGENCY: U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Announcement of the quota quantity for tuna for Calendar Year 1996.

SUMMARY: This document sets forth the tariff-rate quota for the Calendar Year 1996, on tuna classifiable under item 1604.14.20, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The 1996 tariff-rate quota is applicable to tuna fish entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption during the period January 1 through December 31, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen L. Cooper, Chief, Quota Branch, Technical Programs Division, Trade Compliance Team, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs Service, Washington, D.C. 20229, (202) 927-5401.

Background

Each year the tariff-rate quota for tuna fish described in item 1604.14.20, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), is based on the United States canned tuna production for the preceding calendar year. This document sets forth the tariff-rate quota for the Calendar Year 1996. It has now been determined that 36,300,379 kilograms of tuna may be entered for consumption or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during the Calendar Year 1996, at the rate of 6

percent ad valorem under item 1604.14.20, HTSUS. Any such tuna which is entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption during the current calendar year in excess of this quota will be dutiable at the rate of 12.5 percent ad valorem under item 1604.14.30 HTSUS. (OFO-TC:T:Q)

Dated: May 6, 1996.

Michael H. Lane,

Acting Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 96-11733 Filed 5-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

Fiscal Service

[Dept. Circ. 570, 1995 Rev., Supp. No. 12]

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds; Capital Reinsurance Company

A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable reinsurer on Federal Bonds is hereby issued to the following company under Sections 9304 to 9308, Title 31, of the United States Code. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 1995 Revision, on page 34450 to reflect this addition:

Capitol Reinsurance Company.
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019.
PHONE: (212) 974-0100.
UNDERWRITING LIMITATION b/: \$27,928,000. INCORPORATED IN: Maryland.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR, Part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations.

Copies of the Circular may be obtained by calling the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, computerized public bulletin board system (FMS Inside Line) at (202) 874-6817/7034/6953/6872 or by purchasing a hard copy from the Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, DC, telephone (202) 512-0132. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 048-000-00489-0.

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 (202) 874-6507.