

Commission pertaining to the licensing of ocean freight forwarders, effective on the corresponding revocation dates shown below:

License Number: 2773.

Name: Ben & Brothers Forwarding Corp.
Address: 901 Castle Road, Secaucus, NJ 07094.

Date Revoked: January 22, 1997.

Reason: Failed to maintain a valid surety bond.

License Number: 3319.

Name: SBR International Corp.
Address: 1425 N.W. 88th Avenue, 1st Floor, Miami, FL 33172.

Date Revoked: January 29, 1997.

Reason: Failed to maintain a valid surety bond.

License Number: 2330.

Name: Leslie David Lewis d/b/a Les Lewis.

Address: 1010 East Dallas Road, Grapevine, TX 76051.

Date Revoked: January 30, 1997.

Reason: Surrendered license voluntarily.

License Number: 437.

Name: Leading Forwarders, Inc.
Address: 2975 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07306.

Date Revoked: February 10, 1997.

Reason: Surrendered license voluntarily.

Bryant L. Van Brakle,

Director, Bureau of Tariffs, Certification and Licensing.

[FR Doc. 97-5953 Filed 3-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

Ocean Freight Forwarder License Applicants

Notice is hereby given that the following applicants have filed with the Federal Maritime Commission applications for licenses as ocean freight forwarders pursuant to section 19 of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 U.S.C. app. 1718 and 46 CFR 510).

Persons knowing of any reason why any of the following applicants should not receive a license are requested to contact the Office of Freight Forwarders, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, D.C. 20573.

Transglobal Solutions, 1808 Arlington Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501, Jin Miyamoto, Managing Partner, William Robert Parkinson, Partner, Jerry Lee Russell, Jr., Partner

International Transportation Services, Inc., 573 S.W. 169th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33326, Officer: Steve M. Snyder, President

Hanover Shipping Corporation, 1 Gina Court, East Hanover, NJ 07936

Officers: Rohini Kumar Vemula,
President, Divyajyothi R. Vemula,
Director

Albany Freight, Inc., 5245 N.W. 36 Street, Suite 230, Miami Springs, FL 33166, Officer: Caridad C. Gonzalez, President

Dated: March 5, 1997.

Joseph C. Polking,

Secretary.

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[Docket No. 97-04]

Ever Freight International Ltd., Sigma Express Inc., and Mario F. Chavarria dba Transcargo Intl.—Possible Violations of Sections 10(a)(1) and 10(b)(1) of the Shipping Act of 1984; Order of Investigation and Hearing

Ever Freight International Ltd. ("Ever Freight") is a tariffed and bonded non-vessel-operating common carrier (NVOCC) located at 18th Floor, Kam Sang Building, 255-257 Des Voeux Road Central, Sheung Wan in Hong Kong. Ever Freight holds itself out as an NVOCC pursuant to its ATFI tariff FMC No. 001, filed June 17, 1996.

Ever Freight currently maintains an NVOCC bond, No. 8941414, in the amount of \$50,000 with the Washington International Insurance Company, located in Schaumburg, Illinois. Pursuant to Rule 24 of Ever Freight's tariff, Washington International Insurance Company also serves as the U.S. resident agent for purposes of receiving service of process on behalf of Ever Freight International Ltd.

Ever Freight is believed to have been established by former employees of Goldline Ltd., an NVOCC which has operated without a tariff or bond since May 1995.¹ Likewise, Ever Freight is believed to have operated as an NVOCC from March 1996 through June 16, 1996 without benefit of the bond or tariff required by the 1984 Act. During that period and at times subsequent to the filing of its tariff and bond, Ever Freight participated in numerous apparent acts of misdescription of cargo on shipments from Hong Kong to the U.S., in concert with U.S. consignees Sigma Express Inc. and Mario F. Chavarria d/b/a/ Transcargo International, among others.

Respondent Sigma Express Inc. ("Sigma Express") is a tariffed and

¹ Goldline currently operates under the name Comm-Sino Ltd. but has adopted numerous pseudonyms in the past, including Harvesta Ltd., Gain Sharp Trading, Truwest Ltd., Vastmas Intl. Ltd. and Wellsources Ltd. A formal investigation, FMC Docket No. 96-19, is presently underway as to Comm-Sino, alleging violations of sections 10(a)(1) and 10(b)(1).

bonded NVOCC located at 11222 La Cienega Blvd., Suite 330, Inglewood, California 90304. The President of Sigma Express is Echo Tsai. As relevant herein, Sigma Express acts as the U.S. consignee and notify party on certain inbound NVOCC shipments from Ever Freight.

Respondent Mario F. Chavarria is a licensed ocean freight forwarder (FMC license No. 4175) and a tariffed and bonded NVOCC doing business as Transcargo International ("Transcargo"). Transcargo's offices are located at 5155 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 110, Hawthorne, California 90250. As relevant herein, Transcargo acts as the U.S. consignee and notify party on certain inbound NVOCC shipments from Ever Freight.

It appears that Ever Freight, acting as shipper in relation to an ocean common carrier, misdescribed the commodity on numerous shipments transported by an ocean common carrier between March 1, 1996 and December 31, 1996.² The shipments primarily originated in Hong Kong, and were destined for Los Angeles and other U.S. ports and points. In each of these instances, Ever Freight was listed as shipper on the ocean carrier's bill of lading, and Ever Freight destination agents in the U.S., including respondents Sigma Express and Transcargo, acted as the consignee or notify party. Each shipment generally reflects that an Ever Freight "house", or NVOCC, bill of lading was issued for tender by the ultimate consignee to Ever Freight's agent upon arrival of the cargo at destination, which correctly describes the commodity shipped.

It further appears that the ocean common carrier rated the commodities in accordance with the inaccurate description furnished by Ever Freight, while the U.S. consignees of Ever Freight's shipments accepted delivery of the cargo and made payment to the ocean common carrier on the basis of the lower rate attributable to the inaccurate commodity description. Contemporaneous with the payment of any freight due to the ocean common carrier, Ever Freight's agents in the U.S. also would issue arrival notices and

² Based on import data available from the PIERS subsidiary of the Journal of Commerce, Ever Freight has acted as shipper on over 1100 inbound shipments during the nine month period ending November 1996, accounting for nearly 2700 TEUs of cargo. PIERS reports that the primary ocean common carriers transporting cargo on behalf of Ever Freight are Sea-Land and Hanjin Shipping, which together account for 95% of the total tonnage moved during this period. More than 200 of these shipments originated during the months of March-June 1996, at a time when Ever Freight did not yet have any tariff rates effective for its NVOCC services.