

Dated: December 17, 1998.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13.

Bureau: International Trade Administration.

Title: Export Trading Companies Contact Facilitation Service.

Agency Form Number: ITA 4094P.

OMB Number: 0625-0120.

Type of Request: Regular Submission.

Burden: 4,750 hours.

Number of Respondents: 9,500.

Avg. Hours Per Response: 30 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Contact Facilitation Service (CFS) is designed to put producers together with exporters. Many U.S. firms have never exported because of a fear of the risks involved in exporting and a lack of knowledge of the international marketplace. New-to-export firms need the assistance of firms offering export trade services. One of the purposes of the Export Trading Company (ETC) Act of 1982 is to increase United States exports of goods and services by encouraging more efficient provision of export trade services to U.S. producers and suppliers. Section 104 of the Act directs Commerce to provide a service to facilitate contact between producers of exportable goods and services and firms offering export trade services.

The International Trade Administration (ITA) maintains a database of U.S. manufacturers, export trading and management companies, wholesalers/distributors, and international service firms. The CFS is designed to help promote exports and enable U.S. producers to locate ETCs and export services providers. Companies registered in the database are also listed in annual editions of the *U.S. Department of Commerce—U.S. Exporters' Yellow Pages™* (formerly known as The Export Yellow Pages) which are distributed throughout the United States and worldwide. Without the information collected by the form, the CFS and *U.S. Department of Commerce—U.S. Exporters' Yellow Pages™* would be unreliable and

ineffective, because users of this kind of information need the current information about the listed companies.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, state, local or tribal Governments.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit, voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-7340.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution, NW, Washington, DC 20230. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 within 30 days of the publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

Dated: December 17, 1998.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

**Current Industrial Reports Surveys—
WAVE III (Mandatory and Voluntary
Submissions)**

ACTION: Proposed Collection; Comment Request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to: Kenneth Hansen, Chief of

Manufactured Durables Branch, (301) 457-4755, Bureau of the Census, Manufacturing and Construction Division, Room 2207, Building #4, Washington, DC 20233 or: Robert Reinard, Acting Chief of Manufactured Nondurables Branch, (301) 457-4637, Bureau of the Census, Manufacturing and Construction Division, Room 2208, Building #4, Washington, DC 20233.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau conducts a series of monthly, quarterly, and annual surveys as part of the Current Industrial Reports (CIR) program. The CIR surveys deal mainly with the quantity and value of shipments of particular products and occasionally with data on production and inventories; unfilled orders, receipts, stocks and consumption; and comparative data on domestic production, exports, and imports of the products they cover. These surveys provide continuing and timely national statistical data on manufacturing. The results of these surveys are used extensively by individual firms, trade associations, and market analysts in planning or recommending marketing and legislative strategies.

The CIR program includes both mandatory and voluntary surveys. Typically the monthly and quarterly surveys are conducted on a voluntary basis. Those companies that choose not to respond to the voluntary surveys are required to submit a mandatory annual counterpart. The annual counterpart collects annual data from those firms not participating in the more frequent collection.

In 1998, the Census Bureau converted the Current Industrial Reports (CIR) survey form names to reflect the switch from the old U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For example, the M37G under the old SIC system will convert to M336G under the NAICS.

Due to the large number of surveys in the CIR program, for clearance purposes we group the surveys into three Waves. The mandatory and voluntary surveys in each Wave are separately submitted. Thus, a total of six clearances cover all of the surveys in the CIR program. One Wave is submitted for reclearance each year. This year the Census Bureau plans to submit mandatory and voluntary surveys of Wave III for clearance. The surveys in Wave III are as follows:

Mandatory Surveys

MQ313T—Broadwoven Fabrics (Gray)
MA315D—Gloves and Mittens