

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY****Customs Service****Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Automated Clearinghouse Credit**

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, Customs invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection requirement concerning Automated Clearinghouse Credit. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before December 22, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to U.S. Customs Service, Information Services Group, Attn.: J. Edgar Nichols, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 3.2C, Washington, DC 20229.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information should be directed to U.S. Customs Service, Attn.: J. Edgar Nichols, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3.2C, Washington, DC 20229, Tel. (202) 927-1426.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Customs invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)). The comments should address: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operations, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the Customs request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this document Customs is soliciting

comments concerning the following information collection:

*Title:* Automated Clearinghouse Credit.

*OMB Number:* 1515-0218.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Abstract:* The information is to be used by Customs to send information to the company (such as revised format requirements) and to contact participating companies if there is a payment problem.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes to the information collection. This submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

*Type of Review:* Extension (without change).

*Affected Public:* Businesses, Individuals, Institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 200.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 17.

*Estimated Total Annualized Cost on the Public:* N/A.

Dated: October 17, 2000.

**J. Edgar Nichols,**

*Agency Clearance Officer, Information Services Branch.*

[FR Doc. 00-27128 Filed 10-20-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4820-02-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY****Customs Service****Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Andean Trade Preferences**

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, Customs invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection requirement concerning Andean Trade Preferences. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before December 22, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to U.S. Customs Service, Information Services Group, Attn.: J. Edgar Nichols, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 3.2C, Washington, DC 20229.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information should be directed to U.S. Customs Service, Attn.: J. Edgar Nichols, 1300

Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3.2C, Washington, DC 20229, Tel. (202) 927-1426.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Customs invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)). The comments should address: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operations, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the Customs request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this document Customs is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

*Title:* Andean Trade Preferences.

*OMB Number:* 1515-0219.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Abstract:* This collection identifies the country of origin and related rules which apply for purposes of duty-free or reduced-duty treatment and specifies the documentary and other procedural requirements for preferential tariff treatment under the Andean Trade Preferences Act 19 U.S.C. 3201 through 3206.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes to the information collection. This submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

*Type of Review:* Extension (without change).

*Affected Public:* Businesses, Individuals, Institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 150,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 2 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 5,000.

*Estimated Total Annualized Cost on the Public:* N/A.

Dated: October 17, 2000.  
**J. Edgar Nichols,**  
*Agency Clearance Officer, Information Services Branch.*  
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**BILLING CODE 4820-02-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Customs Service**

**Quarterly IRS Interest Rates Used in Calculating Interest on Overdue Accounts and Refunds on Customs Duties**

**AGENCY:** Customs Service, Treasury.  
**ACTION:** General notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public of the quarterly Internal Revenue Service interest rates used to calculate interest on overdue accounts (underpayments) and refunds (overpayments) of Customs duties. For the quarter beginning October 1, 2000, the interest rates for overpayments will be 8 percent for corporations and 9 percent for non-corporations, and the interest rate for underpayments will be 9 percent. This notice is published for the convenience of the importing public and Customs personnel.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2000.  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
 Ronald Wyman, Accounting Services Division, Accounts Receivable Group, 6026 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278, (317) 298-1200, extension 1349.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1505 and Treasury Decision 85-93, published in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 1985 (50 FR 21832), the interest rate paid on applicable overpayments or underpayments of Customs duties shall be in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621 and 6622. Section 6621 was amended (at paragraph (a)(1)(B) by the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-206, 112 Stat. 685) to provide different interest rates applicable to overpayments: one for corporations and one for non-corporations. The interest rate applicable to underpayments is not so bifurcated.

The interest rates are based on the short-term Federal rate and determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on behalf of the Secretary of the Treasury on a quarterly basis. The rates effective

for a quarter are determined during the first-month period of the previous quarter.

In Revenue Ruling 2000-42 (*see*, 2000-39 IRB 297, dated September 25, 2000), the IRS determined the rates of interest for the first quarter of fiscal year (FY) 2001 (the period of October 1-December 31, 2000). The interest rate paid to the Treasury for underpayments will be the short-term Federal rate (6%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of nine percent (9%). For corporate overpayments, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (6%) plus two percentage points (2%) for a total of eight percent (8%). For overpayments made by non-corporations, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (6%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of nine percent (9%). These interest rates are subject to change the second quarter of FY-2001 (the period of January 1-March 31, 2001).

For the convenience of the importing public and Customs personnel the following list of IRS interest rates used, covering the period from before July of 1974 to date, to calculate interest on overdue accounts and refunds of Customs duties, is published in summary format.

Beginning date	Ending date	Underpayments (percent)	Overpayments (percent)	Corporate over-payments (Eff. 1-1-99) (percent)
Prior to				
070174 .....	063075	6	6	
070175 .....	013176	9	9	
020176 .....	013178	7	7	
020178 .....	013180	6	6	
020180 .....	013182	12	12	
020182 .....	123182	20	20	
010183 .....	063083	16	16	
070183 .....	123184	11	11	
010185 .....	063085	13	13	
070185 .....	123185	11	11	
010186 .....	063086	10	10	
070186 .....	123186	9	9	
010187 .....	093087	9	8	
100187 .....	123187	10	9	
010188 .....	033188	11	10	
040188 .....	093088	10	9	
100188 .....	033189	11	10	
040189 .....	093089	12	11	
100189 .....	033191	11	10	
040191 .....	123191	10	9	
010192 .....	033192	9	8	
040192 .....	093092	8	7	
100192 .....	063094	7	6	
070194 .....	093094	8	7	
100194 .....	033195	9	8	
040195 .....	063095	10	9	
070195 .....	033196	9	8	
040196 .....	063096	8	7	
070196 .....	033198	9	8	
040198 .....	123198	8	7	
010199 .....	033199	7	7	
040199 .....	033100	8	8	