

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission will:

(A) By order approve such proposed rule change, or

(B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Amex-00-23 and should be submitted by November 21, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁶

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-27860 Filed 10-30-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Meeting of the Industry Functional Advisory Committee for Customs Matters (IFAC-1)

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Industry Functional Advisory Committee for Customs Matters will hold a meeting on November 9, 2000, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The meeting will be closed to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon, and opened to the public from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2000, unless otherwise notified.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Department of Commerce, Room B841B, located at 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, unless otherwise notified.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Gardner, (202) 482-3681 and Katherine Wiehagen (202) 482-0357, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230, or Dominic Bianchi, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 1724 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508, (202) 395-6120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During the opened portion of the meeting the U.S. Customs Entry Revision Project (ERP) will be discussed by representatives from the U.S. Customs Service and the Bureau of the Census. The ERP was introduced by the Customs Service in 1999 as a proposal to change U.S. customs laws and make them more consistent with current business practices and promote effective compliance. This discussion is an opportunity for the Industry Functional Advisory Committee for Customs Matters to be briefed and invite comments on ERP progress to date.

Dominic Bianchi,

Acting Assistant United States Trade Representative for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Liaison.

[FR Doc. 00-27861 Filed 10-30-00; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Request for Public Comment With Respect to the Annual National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 303 of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984, as amended, USTR is required to publish annually the National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers (NTE).

With this notice, the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is requesting interested parties to assist it in identifying significant barriers to U.S. exports of goods, services and overseas direct investment for inclusion in the NTE. Particularly important are impediments materially affecting the actual and potential financial performance of an industry sector. The TPSC invites written comments that provide views relevant to the issues to be examined in preparing the NTE.

DATES: Public comments are due not later than November 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street NW., Room 122, Washington, DC 20508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gloria Blue, Office of Policy Coordination, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-3475.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Last year's report may be found on USTR's Internet Home Page (www.ustr.gov) under the section on Reports. In order to ensure compliance with the statutory mandate for reporting foreign trade barriers that are significant, we will focus particularly on those restrictions where there has been active private sector interest.

The information submitted should relate to one or more of the following ten categories of foreign trade barriers:

(1) import policies (e.g., tariffs and other import changes, quantitative restrictions, import licensing, and customs barriers);

(2) standards, testing, labeling, and certification (including unnecessarily restrictive application of phytosanitary standards, refusal to accept U.S. manufacturers' self-certification of conformance to foreign product standards, and environmental restrictions);

(3) government procurement (e.g., "but national" policies and closed bidding);

(4) export subsidies e.g., export financing on preferential terms and agricultural export subsidies that displace U.S. exports in third country markets);

(5) lack of intellectual property protection e.g., inadequate patent, copyright, and trademark regimes);

(6) services barriers e.g., limits on the range of financial services offered by foreign financial institutions, regulation of international data flows, restrictions on the use of data processing, quotas on imports of foreign films, and barriers to the provision of services by

¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

professionals *e.g.*, lawyers, doctors, accountants, engineers, nurses, etc.);

(7) investment barriers *e.g.*, limitations on foreign equity participation and on access to foreign government-funded R&D consortia, local content, technology transfer and export performance requirements, and restrictions on repatriation of earnings, capital, fees and royalties);

(8) anticompetitive practices with trade effects tolerated by foreign governments (including anticompetitive activities of both state-owned and private firms that apply to services or to goods and that restrict the sale of U.S. products to any firm, not just to foreign firms that perpetuate the practices);

(9) trade restrictions affecting electronic commerce *e.g.*, tariff and non-tariff measures, burdensome and discriminatory regulations and standards, discriminatory taxation); and

(10) other barriers *i.e.*, barriers that encompass more than one category, *e.g.*, bribery and corruption, or that affect a single sector).

As in the case of last year's NTE, we are asking that particular emphasis be placed on any practices that may violate U.S. trade agreements. We are also interested in receiving any new or updated information pertinent to the barriers covered in last year's report as well as new information. Please note that the information not used in the NTE will be maintained for use in future negotiations.

It is MOST IMPORTANT that your submission contain estimates of the potential increase in exports that would result from the removal of the barrier, as well as a clear discussion of the method(s) by which the estimates were computed. Estimates should fall within the following value ranges: less than \$5 million; \$5 to \$25 million; \$25 million to \$50 million; \$50 million to \$100 million; \$100 million to \$500 million; or over \$500 million. Such assessments enhance USTR's ability to conduct meaningful comparative analyses of a barrier's effect over a range of industries.

Please note that interested parties discussing barriers in more than one country should provide a separate submission *i.e.*, one that is self-contained) for each country.

Written Comments: All written comments should be addressed to: Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street NW., Room 122, Washington, DC 20508.

All submissions must be in English and should conform to the information requirements of 15 CFR 2003. A party

must provide ten copies of its submission which must be received at USTR no later than, November 27, 2000.

If the submission contains business confidential information, ten copies of a confidential version must also be submitted. A justification as to why the information contained in the submission should be treated confidentially must be included in the submission. In addition, any submissions containing business confidential information must be clearly marked "Confidential" at the top and bottom of the cover page (or letter) and of each succeeding page of the submission. The version that does not contain confidential information should also be clearly marked, at the top and bottom of each page, "public version" or "non-confidential."

Written comments submitted in connection with this request, except for information granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6, will be available for public inspection shortly after the filing deadline. Inspection is by appointment only with the staff of the USTR Public Reading Room and can be arranged by calling Brenda Webb (202) 395-6186. The Reading Room is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Carmen Suro-Bredie,

Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.

[FR Doc. 00-27950 Filed 10-30-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

RTCA, Inc.; Government/Industry Certification Steering Committee

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), notice is hereby given for RTCA Government/Industry Certification Steering Committee meeting to be held November 14, 2000, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591, in the Bessie Coleman Conference Center, Room 2AB.

The agenda will include: (1) Welcome and Introductory Remarks; (2) Report from Certification Select Committee; (a) Select Committee Actions from Previous Meeting; (b) Report on Working Group-1/SOIT Interface; (c) Report on FAA Reauthorization ACT vis-a-vis Task Force 4 Recommendations 11 and 14; (3) Review of Select Committee

Products; (d) Presentation of Completed Deliverables; (e) Timeline for Remaining Deliverables; (4) Demonstration of Proposed Certification Home Page; (5) Other Business; (6) Date and Location of Next Meeting; (7) Closing.

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space availability. With the approval of the co-chairmen, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing to present statements or obtain information should contact the RTCA Secretariat, 1140 Connecticut Avenue, NW., Suite 1020, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 833-9339 (phone); (202) 833-9434 (fax); or <http://www.rtca.org> (web site). Members of the public may present a written statement to the committee at any time.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 23, 2000.

Janice L. Peters,

Designated Official.

[FR Doc. 00-27903 Filed 10-30-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket Number: MARAD-2000-8198]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel MACCOBOY III.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Public Law 105-383, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (65 FR 6905; February 11, 2000) that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels, a waiver will not be granted.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 30, 2000.