

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jill Lewandowski, Lynne Barre or Trevor Spradlin, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 473-1433-02, originally issued on February 23, 2001 (66 FR 11274), has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR Part 216), the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking, Importing, and Exporting of Endangered Fish and Wildlife (50 CFR part 222).

The permit holder requested authorization to extend Permit No. 473-1433-02 for an additional 12 months. The new expiration date for the permit is November 30, 2003, and the permit number has been changed to No. 473-1433-03 to reflect that the permit has been amended.

Dated: November 29, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-30755 Filed 12-3-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Fastener Quality Act Insignia Recordal Process

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the continuing information collection, 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 3, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-7400; or by electronic mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information

should be directed to Lynne Beresford, Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, Office of the Commissioner for Trademarks, USPTO, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 306-3109; or by electronic mail at lynn.beresford@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Abstract

Under Section 5 of the Fastener Quality Act (FQA), 15 U.S.C. 5401 *et seq.* (as amended by Pub. L. 104-113, Pub. L. 105-234, and Pub. L. 106-34), certain industrial fasteners are required to bear an insignia identifying the manufacturer. The manufacturer must record this insignia with the USPTO. The procedures for the recordal of insignias under the FQA are set forth in 15 CFR 280.300 *et seq.*

This information collection was previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in February 2000 in conjunction with a proposed rule implementing the changes contained in the FQA Amendments that were enacted on June 8, 1999 (Pub. L. 106-34). The final rule notice entitled "Procedures for Implementation of the Fastener Quality Act" was published in the **Federal Register** on June 28, 2000 (Vol. 65, No. 125). Under the current rules of practice, only manufacturers of certain fasteners are required to record insignias. Previously, private label distributors were also required to record fastener insignias. The purpose of this collection is to ensure that a fastener can be traced to its manufacturer.

It is mandatory for manufacturers of fasteners covered by the FQA to submit an application to the USPTO for recordal of an insignia on the Fastener Insignia Register. The insignia may be either a unique alphanumeric designation that the USPTO will issue upon request, or a trademark that is either (1) registered at the USPTO or (2) the subject of an application to obtain a registration. Upon successful application for recordal of a fastener insignia, the USPTO will issue a Certificate of Recordal, which must be renewed every five years. If ownership of a recorded alphanumeric designation is assigned to another entity, the designation becomes "inactive" and the new owner must submit an application in order to reactivate the designation within six months of the date of assignment. If the recordal is based on a trademark application or registration that is assigned to a new owner, the

recordal becomes "inactive" and cannot be reactivated. Instead, the new owner of the trademark application or registration must apply for a new recordal.

This information collection includes one form, the Application for Recordal of Insignia under the Fastener Quality Act (PTO-1611), which provides manufacturers with a convenient way to submit a request for the recordal of a fastener insignia or to renew or reactivate an existing Certificate of Recordal. Use of form PTO-1611 is not mandatory, and applicants may instead prepare requests for recordal using their own format. In November 2001, OMB approved a change worksheet submitted by the USPTO that reduced the burden for this information collection due to the USPTO receiving fewer Applications for Recordal of Insignia under the Fastener Quality Act than previously estimated.

The USPTO uses the information in this collection to maintain the Fastener Insignia Register, which is open to public inspection. The Fastener Insignia Register may be downloaded from the USPTO web site, and printed copies may be purchased from the USPTO.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, or hand delivery to the USPTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0028.

Form Number(s): PTO-1611.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 150 responses per year.

Estimated Time Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 10 minutes (0.17 hours) to gather the necessary information, prepare the form, and submit the request for recordal or renewal of a fastener insignia to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 26 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$780 per year. The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by paraprofessionals at an estimated rate of \$30 per hour. Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for this collection will be \$780 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Application for Recordal or Renewal of Insignia Under the Fastener Quality Act.	10 minutes	150	26
Total	150	26

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$3,474. There are no capital start-up costs or maintenance costs associated with this information collection. However, this collection does have annual (non-hour) costs in the form of filing fees. Customers may also incur postage costs when submitting the Application for Recordal of Insignia Under the Fastener Quality Act to the USPTO by mail.

Under 37 CFR 2.7, the filing fee for a recordal of fastener insignia, a renewal of an insignia recordal, or the surcharge for a late renewal is \$20. If a manufacturer submits a renewal after the expiration date but within six months of that date, then the manufacturer must pay the \$20 renewal fee as well as a \$20 late renewal surcharge, for a total fee of \$40 for a late renewal. The USPTO estimates that approximately 20 of the 150 responses per year will be late renewals that incur the surcharge. Therefore, the total filing costs for this collection will be \$3,400 per year for applications for recordal of fastener insignia, renewals, and late renewals.

The public may submit the information for this collection to the USPTO by mail through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for a mailed submission will be 49 cents, for a total postage cost of \$74 per year.

The total non-hour respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of filing fees and postage costs is \$3,474 per year.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed 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 estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 27, 2002.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.

[FR Doc. 02-30746 Filed 12-3-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) 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 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Title: Rules for Patent Maintenance Fees.

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/45/47/65/66.

Agency Approval Number: 0651-0016.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 30,495 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 348,110 responses per year.

Avg. Hours Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 5 minutes (0.08 hours) to 8 hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the form or petition, and submit the completed request. The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 20 seconds (0.006 hours) to submit the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form.

Needs and Uses: In order to keep utility patents in force, patentees must pay maintenance fees at 3½, 7½, and 11½ years after the date of grant. The public uses this collection to submit a patent maintenance fee payment, to file a petition to accept an unavoidably or

unintentionally delayed maintenance fee payment, to file a petition to request acceptance of a maintenance fee payment that was submitted prior to patent expiration but refused by the USPTO, and to designate or change an address to be used for fee-related correspondence with the USPTO. The USPTO uses the information collected from the public to process and record maintenance fee payments, to consider petitions regarding delayed maintenance fee payments or payments that were refused by the USPTO, and to send fee-related correspondence to the correct address.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profits, not-for-profit institutions, and the Federal government.

Frequency: On occasion and 3 times at 4-year intervals following the grant of the patent.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231, by phone at (703) 308-7400, or by e-mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before January 3, 2003, to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: November 27, 2002.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.

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