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To attend the meeting, please call (202) 205-2178 or (202) 205-2122 and provide your date of birth and Social Security number. Members of the public who have confirmed their attendance must present a photo ID at the security desk before they enter the Department of State and are escorted to the meeting room.

The Advisory Committee on Cultural Diplomacy is responsible for advising the Secretary of State on programs and policies to advance the use of cultural diplomacy in United States foreign policy. This charge includes providing to the Secretary guidance on increasing the presentation abroad of the finest of U.S. creative, visual, and performing arts, as well as strategies for increasing public-private partnerships to sponsor cultural exchange programs that promote the national interests of the United States. An agenda for the committee's first session will be distributed at the meeting.

Dated: March 10, 2004.

**Joseph Merante,**

*Chief, Cultural Programs Division, Office of Citizen Exchanges, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 04-5899 Filed 3-15-04; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

[Docket No. NHTSA 2003-15621; Notice 2]

**Accuride Corporation; Grant of Application for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance**

Accuride Corporation (Accuride) has determined that approximately 1,053 Extra Service Wheels, produced between May 27, 2003, and May 31, 2003, do not meet certain requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 120, "Tire Selection and Rims for Motor Vehicles Other Than Passenger Cars." Some 466 of the 1,053 Extra Service Wheels were shipped to eleven different customers.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h), Accuride has petitioned for a determination that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety and has filed an appropriate report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports."

Notice of receipt of the application was published, with a 30-day comment

period, on July 21, 2003, in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 43254). NHTSA received no comments.

Accuride described the noncompliant wheels as size 22.5 x 8.25 inch, 15 degree drop center, one piece tubeless aluminum dual wheels. Accuride produced these wheels at its Erie, Pennsylvania plant and machined them at the Accuride plant in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The symbol "DOT" and the designation, which indicates the source of the rims" published nominal dimensions, in this case "T," were inadvertently not marked on the wheels. Accuride believes that the omission of the "DOT-T" marking is inconsequential to safety as the omission in no way affects the performance of the wheel and does not otherwise compromise safety. Accuride states that all other information markings required by FMVSS No. 120 are correctly marked.

Paragraph S5.2 of FMVSS 120 requires that each rim be marked with specific information, including a designation indicating the source of the rims' published nominal dimensions and the symbol "DOT," constituting a certification by the manufacturer of the rim that it complies with all applicable motor vehicle safety standards. Exclusion of the information may cause mismatching of tires to rims that could result in tire and rim separations or blowouts.

In this case, the agency agrees that the noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety as all other information markings, including the correct rim size designation, as required by FMVSS No. 120 are correctly marked and the consumer can refer to these markings to match the rims to tires. Also, the agency traditionally considers failure to mark "DOT" as a failure to certify under 49 CFR Part 567—Certification rather than a failure to comply with a FMVSS. As such, the absence of the "DOT" symbol in this case will not compromise the safe operation of motor vehicles.

In consideration of the foregoing, NHTSA has decided that the applicant has met its burden of persuasion that the noncompliance at issue is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. Accordingly, Accuride's application is hereby granted, and the applicant is exempted from the obligation of providing notification of, and a remedy for, the noncompliance.

**Authority:** (49 U.S.C. 301118, 301120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8)

Issued on: March 11, 2004.

**Stephen R. Kratzke,**

*Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.*

[FR Doc. 04-5891 Filed 3-15-04; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-347 (Sub-No. 3X)]

**Florida West Coast Railroad Company, Inc.—Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Alachua and Gilchrist Counties, FL**

On February 25, 2004, Florida West Coast Railroad Company, Inc. (FWCR), filed with the Surface Transportation Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon and discontinue service over an approximately 13-mile line of railroad extending from milepost 734.0, in Trenton, to milepost 721.0, in Newberry, in Alachua and Gilchrist Counties, FL. The line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 32669 and 32693, and includes no stations.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in FWCR's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by June 14, 2004.<sup>1</sup>

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,100 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than April 5, 2004. Each

<sup>1</sup> FWCR initially proposed a consummation date of April 15, 2004. FWCR's representative has subsequently acknowledged that, if its petition is granted, consummation cannot occur before the Board has authorized the proposed abandonment and discontinuance.