

- What, in your institution, is the best way to conduct biosecurity training and what should it consist of?

- What is the role for Institutional Biosafety Committees in biosecurity at your facility?

- To what extent has the cost of implementing biosecurity procedures had an impact on your facility/institution? Do existing facilities make retrofitting to accommodate biosecurity difficult? Have you found alternative methods to achieve compliance?

- What personnel requirements are applied toward biosecurity at your facility? Are these measures appropriate for small institutions? Do you have suggestions for compliance guidance in this area?

- Can you provide examples of how low cost measures have been put in place that have precluded the need for "high-tech" solutions? An example might be a protocol for assuring personnel reliability, instead of mounting and monitoring cameras.)

- How best can biosecurity measures be instituted in clinical microbiological labs so as to avoid interfering with patient care?

- What have been the positive impacts of biosecurity implementation in your institution?

- What have been the negative impacts of biosecurity implementation in your institution?

- If you represent a company that has not yet incorporated biosecurity as part of its overall business plan, how difficult would it be to do so, and how would it impact business planning and intellectual property protection?

The public comment time is designed for substantive commentary on the successes and challenges of biosecurity implementation at laboratory facilities. Please submit a request for the opportunity to make an oral public comment five (5) days in advance of the meeting. The time for oral public comments will be limited to no more than 5 minutes per person. Written comments are also welcome and will be distributed at the meeting if provided electronically at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting. Please submit your request to make an oral comment or copy of written comments to: Rachel E. Levinson, OSTP, at levinson@ostp.eop.gov, or fax your request/comments to (202) 456-6027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, please call (202) 456-6130, prior to 3 p.m. on Friday, April 9, 2004. Please note that public seating for this meeting is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The publication entitled, "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," better known as the BMBL, is a publication of the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that outlines recommended safety practices for research and clinical laboratories and research animal facilities. It describes the combinations of standard and special microbiological practices, safety equipment, and facilities constituting Biosafety Levels 1-4, which are recommended for work with a variety of infectious agents in various laboratory settings. The recommendations in the BMBL are advisory. They are intended to provide a voluntary guide or code of practice as well as goals for upgrading operations. They also are offered as a guide and reference in the construction of new laboratory facilities and in the renovation of existing facilities.

The most current version, the Fourth Edition, was published in May 1999. The 4th edition of the BMBL was the first edition to address laboratory security concerns. Appendix F of the BMBL was updated in December 2002 to provide assistance to facility managers with meeting the Select Agent regulatory mandate of 42 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 73. These guidelines are intended for laboratories where select agents are used. Appendix F (Dec. 2002) provides a summary of issues that should be considered when evaluating laboratory security in facilities that utilize Select Agents. An electronic copy of the BMBL 4th ed. is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/biosfty/bmbl4/bmbl4toc.htm>.

In September 2003, CDC and NIH initiated efforts to update the BMBL. This revision process occurs every 5-years extending over an 18-24 month period. Completion of the 5th edition is anticipated by Summer 2005. This new edition will include for the first time a chapter on biosecurity.

This workshop is an opportunity for the public to provide input into the chapter on biosecurity, as well as an appendix providing supplementary information related to select agents. Public comments on the successes and challenges in implementing biosecurity will be taken into consideration when drafting the new chapter.

Dated: March 18, 2004.

Stanley S. Sokul,

Counsel, Office of Science and Technology Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-6517 Filed 3-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3170-01-P

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Sunshine Act Meeting

ACTION: Notice of a partially open meeting of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

TIME AND PLACE: Thursday, April 1, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be held at Ex-Im Bank in Room 1143, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571.

OPEN AGENDA ITEM: Extension of Ex-Im Bank's Environmental Procedures & Guidelines and the Nuclear Procedures & Guidelines.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The meeting will be open to the public participation for Item No. 1 only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of the Secretary, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571 (Tele. No. 202-565-3957).

Peter B. Saba,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 04-6573 Filed 3-19-04; 12:45 pm]

BILLING CODE 6690-01-M

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

[Petition No. P4-04]

Petition of FEDEX Trade Networks Transport & Brokerage, Inc. for Exemption From the Tariff Publishing Requirements of Sections 8 and 10 of the Shipping Act of 1984, as Amended; Notice of Filing

This is to provide notice of filing and to invite comments on or before April 2, 2004, with regard to the Petition described below.

FedEx Trade Networks Transport & Brokerage, Inc. ("Petitioner") has petitioned, pursuant to Section 16 of the Shipping Act of 1984, 46 U.S.C. app. § 1715, for an exemption from the tariff publishing and adherence requirements of the Shipping Act in order to permit Petitioner to depart from the provisions of its tariff and enter into confidential agreements for ocean transportation services with shippers.

In order for the Commission to make a thorough evaluation of the Petition, interested persons are requested to submit comments on the Petition no later than April 2, 2004. Comments on this Petition shall consist of an original and 15 copies, be directed to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC 20573-0001, and be served on Petitioner's counsel

Warren L. Dean, Jr., Thompson Coburn LLP., 1909 K Street, NW., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006-1167. It is also requested that a copy of the comment be submitted in electronic form (WordPerfect, Word or ASCII) on diskette or e-mailed to secretary@fmc.gov.

The Petition will be posted on the Commission's homepage at <http://www.fmc.gov/Docket%20Log/Docket%20Log%20Index.htm>. All comments on the Petition will also be posted on the Commission's homepage at this location. Copies of the Petition also may be obtained by sending a request to the Office of the Secretary by regular mail, e-mail, or by calling (202) 523-5725.

Interested parties may also make oral presentations in this proceeding. At the discretion of individual Commissioners, interested persons may request one-on-one meetings at which they may make presentations describing their views on the Petition. All meetings shall be completed before the close of the comment period. A summary or transcript of each oral presentation will be included in the record and must be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission within 5 days of the meeting. Persons wishing to make oral presentations should contact the Office of the Secretary to secure contact names and numbers for individual Commissioners.

Comments submitted in response to this Notice shall be limited to the merits of this Petition. Commenters shall not use this as an opportunity to submit further comments or replies to Petition Nos. P3-03, P5-03, P7-03, P8-03, P9-03, P1-04 and P2-04 or any replies thereto. The comment period in these petitions is closed and the Commission's rules at 46 CFR 502.74 prohibit replies to replies.

Parties participating in this proceeding may elect to receive service of the Commission's issuances in this proceeding through e-mail in lieu of service by U.S. mail. A party opting for electronic service shall advise the Office of the Secretary in writing and provide an e-mail address where service can be made. Such request should be directed to secretary@fmc.gov.

Bryant L. VanBrakle,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-6394 Filed 3-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-P

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 10 a.m.—March 31, 2004.

PLACE: 800 North Capitol Street, NW., First Floor Hearing Room, Washington, DC.

STATUS: A portion of the meeting will be open to the public and the remainder of the meeting will be closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The open portion of the meeting:

1. *Docket No. 04-02*—Optional rider for proof of additional NVOCC financial responsibility.

The closed portion of the meeting:

1. *Petition No. P3-99*—Petition of China Ocean Shipping (Group) Company for a partial exemption from the Controlled Carrier Act.

2. *Petition No. P4-03*—Petition of China Shipping Container Lines Co., Ltd. for permanent full exemption from the first sentence of section 9(C) of the Shipping Act of 1984.

3. *Petition No. P6-03*—Petition of SINOTRANS Container Lines Co., Ltd. (SINOLINES) for a full exemption from the first sentence of section 9(c) of the Shipping Act of 1984, as amended.

4. *Docket No. 98-14*—Shipping restrictions, requirements and practices of the People's Republic of China.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Bryant L. VanBrakle, Secretary, (202) 523-5725.

Bryant L. VanBrakle,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-6634 Filed 3-19-04; 3:13 pm]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisition of Shares of Bank or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the office of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments

must be received not later than April 6, 2004.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Patrick Wilder, Managing Examiner) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1414:

1. *Mark Bradley Richardson*, Thetford Center, Vermont, and Kimberly Ann Richardson, Atlanta, Georgia, as trustees of the 1988 Irrevocable Trust of Cohn V. Richardson; to acquire additional voting shares of Cowden Bancorp, Inc., Springfield, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Community Banks of Shelby County, Cowden, Illinois.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (James Hunter, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. *Gary D. and Donna L. Bunch*, both of Edmond, Oklahoma; to retain control of Exchange Bancshares of Moore, Inc., Moore, Oklahoma, and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of Exchange National Bank, Moore, Oklahoma.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, March 17, 2004.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 04-6411 Filed 3-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise