DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Application—Alternative Inspection Services/FAST Commercial Driver Application

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection requirement concerning the Application—Alternative Inspection Services/FAST Commercial Driver Application. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501(c)(2)).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 14, 2007, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Information Services Group, Attn.: Tracey Denning, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3.2.C, Washington, DC 20229.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Attn.: Tracey Denning, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3.2.C, Washington, DC 20229. Tel. (202) 344–1429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP 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 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501(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 CBP request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this document CBP is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

Title: Application—Alternative Inspection Services/FAST Commercial Driver Application.

OMB Number: 1651–0121.

Form Number: CBP Forms I–823 and 823F.

Abstract: The purpose of the Alternative Inspection Services and FAST Programs is to prescreen applicants and their vehicles in order to expedite travelers seeking admission to the United States. CBP plans to institute a web-based system for applicants to apply for Alternative Inspection Services and the FAST Program, and to phase out the paper versions of the I–823 and the 823F.

Current Actions: This submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

Type of Review: Extension (without change to the burden hours).

Affected Public: Businesses, Individuals.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 275,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 1 hour and 6 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 304,000.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost on the Public: $7,740,000.


Tracey Denning,
Agency Clearance Officer, Information Services Branch.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): Ability of Third Parties To Submit Manifest Information on Behalf of Truck Carriers Via the ACE Secure Data Portal in the Test of the ACE Truck Manifest System

AGENCY: Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces that truck carriers participating in the ACE Truck Manifest Test and electing to use third parties to submit manifest information to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Secure Data Portal are no longer required to have ACE portal accounts. Thus, truck carriers without ACE portal accounts, while participating in the test of the ACE truck manifest system, may now use third parties (such as Customs brokers or other truck carriers) with ACE portal accounts to electronically transmit truck manifest information, via the ACE portal, on their behalf.

DATES: Truck carriers participating in the ACE Truck Manifest Test without ACE portal accounts may use third parties with ACE portal accounts to electronically transmit truck manifest information via the ACE portal, on their behalf, beginning March 15, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James Swanson, via e-mail at james.d.swanson@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 4, 2004 and September 13, 2004, CBP published general notices in the Federal Register (69 FR 55167 and 69 FR 5360) announcing a test, in conjunction with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), allowing participating truck carriers to transmit electronic manifest data in ACE, including advance cargo information as required by section 343(a) of the Trade Act of 2002, as amended by the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002. The advance cargo information requirements are detailed in the final rule published in the Federal Register at 68 FR 68140 on December 5, 2003. Truck carriers participating in the test opened up Truck Carrier [Portal] Accounts which provided them with the ability to electronically transmit truck manifest data and obtain release of their cargo, crew, conveyances, and equipment via the ACE Portal or electronic data interchange (EDI) messaging.

In the September 13, 2004, notice, CBP stated that, in order to be eligible for participation in this test, a carrier must have:

1. Submitted an application (i.e., statement of intent to establish an ACE [Portal] Account and to participate in the testing of electronic truck manifest functionality) as set forth in the

February 4, 2004, notice;