

are to be released to the importer or consignee.

Current Actions: There are no changes to the information collection. This submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

Type of Review: Extension (without change).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,950.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 20.

Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 99,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 8,247.

If additional information is required contact: Tracey Denning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 3.2.C, Washington, DC 20229, at 202-344-1429.

Dated: August 26, 2008.

Tracey Denning,

Agency Clearance Officer, Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. E8-20769 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Agency Information Collection Activities: Foreign Trade Zone Annual Reconciliation Certification and Record Keeping Requirement

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

ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments; extension of an existing information collection: 1651-0051

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act: Foreign Trade Zone Annual Reconciliation Certification and Record Keeping Requirement. This is a proposed extension of an information collection that was previously approved. CBP is proposing that this information collection be extended with no change to the burden hours. This document is published to obtain

comments from the public and affected agencies. This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 36542) on June 27, 2008, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 8, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the OMB Desk Officer for Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, and sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) encourages the general public and affected Federal agencies to submit written comments and suggestions on proposed and/or continuing information collection requests pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act (Pub. L. 104-13). Your comments should address one of the following four points:

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency/component, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies/components estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Title: Foreign Trade Zone Annual Reconciliation Certification and Record Keeping Requirement.
OMB Number: 1651-0051.
Form Number: N/A.

Abstract: Each Foreign Trade Zone Operator will be responsible for maintaining its inventory control in compliance with statute and regulations. The operator will furnish CBP an annual certification of their compliance.

Current Actions: There are no changes to the information collection. This

submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

Type of Review: Extension (without change).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 260.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 195.

If additional information is required contact: Tracey Denning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 3.2.C, Washington, DC 20229, at 202-344-1429.

Dated: August 26, 2008.

Tracey Denning,

Agency Clearance Officer, Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. E8-20770 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Customs and Border Protection

Agency Information Collection Activities: Petition for Remission or Mitigation of Forfeitures and Penalties Incurred

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

ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments; extension of an existing information collection: 1651-0100.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act: Petition for Remission or Mitigation of Forfeitures and Penalties Incurred. This is a proposed extension of an information collection that was previously approved. CBP is proposing that this information collection be extended with no change to the burden hours. This document is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 36546) on June 27, 2008, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is

conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 8, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the OMB Desk Officer for Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, and sent via electronic mail toaira_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) encourages the general public and affected Federal agencies to submit written comments and suggestions on proposed and/or continuing information collection requests pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act (Pub. L. 104-13). Your comments should address one of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency/component, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies/components estimate of the burden of The proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Title: Petition for Remission or Mitigation of Forfeitures and Penalties.

OMB Number: 1651-0100.

Form Number: CBP Form 4609.

Abstract: Persons whose property is seized or who incur monetary penalties due to violations of the Tariff Act are entitled to seek remission or mitigation by means of an informal appeal. This form gives the violator the opportunity to claim mitigation and provides a record of such.

Current Actions: There are no changes to the information collection. This submission is being submitted to extend the expiration date.

Type of Review: Extension (without change).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 28,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Time per response: 14 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 6,500.

If additional information is required contact: Tracey Denning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 3.2.C, Washington, DC 20229, at 202-344-1429.

Dated: August 26, 2008.

Tracey Denning,

Agency Clearance Officer, Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. E8-20763 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Announcement of Termination of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test: Semi-Monthly Statement Processing Prototype

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

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces U.S. Customs and Border Protection's decision to formally terminate the test of the semi-monthly filing and statement processing prototype program that was initiated in April 1998, as part of the National Customs Automation Program. The test of the semi-monthly filing program was conceived as a transitional procedure from the Automated Commercial System to the full electronic processing of commercial importations in the Automated Commercial Environment, which allows account holders to pay duties, taxes, fees, and other payments owed using a periodic statement cycle. The Automated Commercial Environment portal system for Periodic Monthly Payment statement processing has been deployed nationwide thereby ending the need for the semi-monthly filing program.

DATES: *Effective Date:* September 8, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sharon Taylor, Program Officer, Revenue Policy and Programs Branch, ADCVD/Revenue Division, Office of International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection at (202) 863-6527 or via e-mail at Sharon.Taylor@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Title VI of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, Public Law 103-182, 107 Stat. 2057 (December 8, 1993), contains provisions pertaining to Customs Modernization (107 Stat. 2170). Subtitle B of Title VI establishes the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP)—an automated and electronic system for the processing of commercial importations. Pursuant to the provisions of Subtitle B, U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") developed a new commercial processing system, the Automated Commercial Environment ("ACE"), which is phasing out the Automated Commercial System ("ACS").

As an interim measure, while the ACS was still in use for the filing of duties, taxes, fees and other payments, the former Customs Service (now CBP) published a General Notice entitled "Announcement of National Customs Automation Program Test: Semi-Monthly Statement Processing Prototype" in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 15259) on March 30, 1998, pursuant to section 101.9(b) of CBP regulations (19 CFR 101.9(b)), which implemented the NCAP testing procedures. The prototype permitted importers to file entry summaries and to pay their duties, taxes, and fees within seven days of the end of a fifteen or sixteen day semi-monthly period for cargo released during that period. Pursuant to section 1505 of the United States Code (19 U.S.C. 1505), the interest rate was calculated using the rate in effect seven days after the fifteen or sixteen day semi-monthly period. It provided for suspension of a participant for misconduct and an appeal process. Only six importers elected to participate in the program. The notice originally instituted the program at only 14 ports of entry. The notice stated that the semi-monthly filing and statement processing prototype would be implemented over an 18-month period and would end when the periodic payment/statement feature of ACE was available.

However, ACE was not fully implemented in 2002 and the testing of the semi-monthly processing prototype was incomplete. The reasons for these developments were many, namely, budgeting difficulties, the occurrence of other national events, which occasioned a shifting of CBP priorities, the continuing reorganization of Customs, etc. Furthermore, evaluations of the prototype conducted with participants showed a concern that the prototype testing should be expanded to additional ports so that the national