

programs; a summary of agency concerns and questions about its occupational information needs; and, an overview of the disability determination process. The Panel will also deliberate on issues presented and discuss its organization and operating procedures. The Panel will determine dates and identify tentative agenda items for future Panel meetings. The Panel will not hear public comment during the Inaugural Meeting. You may submit public comment in writing at any time in (not to exceed five pages) to the Panel address below.

Individuals who need special accommodation in order to attend the meeting (e.g., sign language services, assistive listening devices, or materials in alternative formats such as large print or CD) should notify Debra Tidwell-Peters via e-mail to [debra.tidwell-peters@ssa.gov](mailto:debra.tidwell-peters@ssa.gov) or by telephone at 410-965-9617, no later than February 9, 2009. SSA will attempt to meet requests made but cannot guarantee availability of services. All meeting locations are barrier free.

Contact Information: Records of all public Panel proceedings are maintained and available for inspection. Anyone requiring further information should contact the Panel staff at: Occupational Information Development Advisory Panel, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, 3-E-26 Operations, Baltimore, MD 21235-0001. Telephone: 410-965-9617. Fax: 410-597-0825. For additional information, please visit the Panel Web site at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/oidap>.

**Debra Tidwell-Peters,**

*Designated Federal Officer, Occupational Information Development Advisory Panel.*

[FR Doc. E9-950 Filed 1-16-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

[Public Notice 6484]

**Office of the Chief of Protocol; Gifts to Federal Employees From Foreign Government Sources Reported to Employing Agencies in Calendar Year 2007; Correction**

**AGENCY:** Department of State.

**ACTION:** Notice; Correction.

**SUMMARY:** This document contains a correction to the Notice "Gifts to Federal Employees From Foreign Government Sources Reported to Employing Agencies in Calendar Year 2007" published in the **Federal Register** on December 2, 2008, in FR Volume 73,

Number 246. This notice is a request to change the identity of the foreign donor and government of a gift given to the Honorable Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State of the United States, on January 5, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Tiffany Divis, Senior Gifts Officer and Special Assistant, Office of the Chief of Protocol, 2201 C Street, NW., Suite 1238, Washington, DC 20520, office number 202-647-1161.

**Correction**

In the **Federal Register** of December 2, 2008, in FR Volume 73, on page 78493, in the third column, correct the sixth paragraph to read:

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Dated: January 9, 2009.

**Patrick F. Kennedy,**

*Under Secretary for Management, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E9-969 Filed 1-16-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-20-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (Formerly Subpart Q) During the Week Ending December 27, 2008**

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (*See* 14 CFR 301.201 *et seq.*)

The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions To Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period, DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

*Docket Number:* DOT-OST-2008-0382.

*Date Filed:* December 23, 2008.

*Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion To Modify Scope:* January 13, 2009.

*Description:* Amendment No. 1 of Travel Service, a.s. to its application for an exemption and foreign air carrier permit requesting to include scheduled

foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between a point or points in the European Community and the Member States of the European Union, and a point or points in the United States, to the full extent allowed under the Air Transport Agreement between the United States and the European Community and the Member States of the European Union; and to register its trade name "Smart Wings," and that it be made part of its exemption and foreign air carrier permit.

*Docket Number:* DOT-OST-2005-22228 and DOT-OST-2008-0392.

*Date Filed:* December 22, 2008.

*Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion To Modify Scope:* January 12, 2009.

*Description:* Application of Southwest Airlines Co. ("Southwest") requesting a certificate of public convenience and necessity and exemption authority to authorize Southwest to engage in foreign scheduled air transportation of persons, property and mail between the United States and Canada. Southwest also requests that the Department designate it for such service.

**Renee V. Wright,**

*Program Manager, Docket Operations Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. E9-1061 Filed 1-16-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Transit Administration**

**Guidelines for Preparation of Environmental Assessments: Notice of Withdrawal of Circular**

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Withdrawal of Circular.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is providing notice that it is withdrawing circular C5620.1, "Guidelines for Preparing Environmental Assessments." The circular, which was issued in 1979, is outdated and should no longer be relied upon for guidance or cited in documents prepared for federally funded transit projects. FTA plans to develop new guidance at some point in the future.

**DATES:** The effective date of the withdrawal of the circular is January 21, 2009.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carl Bausch, Office of Planning and Environment, Federal Transit Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave

SE., East Building, Washington, DC 20590, phone: (202) 366-1626; or Christopher S. Van Wyk, Office of Chief Counsel, same address, phone: (202) 366-1733.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** By this notice, FTA is withdrawing circular C5620.1, "Guidelines for Preparing Environmental Assessments." The circular was intended to provide guidance on the preparation of environmental assessments pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Since the time of the circular's issuance in 1979, there have been numerous substantive legal decisions and changes in applicable law that significantly affect the way in which environmental assessments are prepared pursuant to NEPA. These changes, including a major revision of FTA's regulations for implementing NEPA at 23 CFR Part 771 issued in 1987, have rendered the circular too inaccurate and deficient to continue to provide guidance on the preparation of environmental assessments pursuant to NEPA. Thus, FTA is providing this notice that the circular is withdrawn, should no longer be used as guidance, and should no longer be cited in documents prepared for federally funded transit projects.

The circular will be moved to the "archive" section of its public Web site on the date of publication of this notice. FTA plans to develop new guidance at some point in the future.

Issued on: January 12, 2009.

**Sherry E. Little,**

*Acting Administrator.*

[FR Doc. E9-1013 Filed 1-16-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-57-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2008-0074; Notice 2]

#### Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Denial of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company (Goodyear), has determined that certain passenger car tires manufactured during the week of January 7, 2008 failed to comply with the labeling requirements of paragraph S5.5.1(a) of 49 CFR 571.139, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 139 *New Pneumatic Radial Tires for Light Vehicles*. FMVSS No. 139 requires that radial tires manufactured before September 1, 2009 for use on motor vehicles that have a gross vehicle weight

(GVWR) rating of 10,000 pounds or less must be labeled with the Tire Identification Number (TIN) on one side of the tire and a full TIN or partial TIN on the opposite side. Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, Goodyear filed a noncompliance report with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) notifying NHTSA of the noncompliance.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h), and 49 CFR part 556, on March 28, 2008, Goodyear submitted a petition for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. 30118 and 30120 on the basis that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. NHTSA published notice of receipt of the petition, with a 30-day public comment period, on June 12, 2008 in the **Federal Register**. 73 FR 33486. In response to the petition, NHTSA did not receive any comments. To view the petition and all supporting documents, log onto the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Web site at: <http://www.regulations.gov/>. Then follow the online search instructions to locate docket number "NHTSA-2008-0074."

For further information on this decision, contact Mr. George Gillespie, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA, telephone (202) 366-5299, facsimile (202) 366-7002.

#### Summary of Goodyear's Petition

Goodyear petitioned NHTSA for a determination that a noncompliance in approximately 18 Goodyear Eagle RS-A P235/55R18 99V passenger car tires manufactured in its Lawton, Oklahoma plant during the week of January 7, 2008 is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. Paragraph S5.5.1(a) of FMVSS No. 139 requires that radial tires manufactured before September 1, 2009 for motor vehicles less than 10,000 GVWR be permanently labeled with (1) a full TIN required by 49 CFR Part 574 on one sidewall of the tire, and (2) except for retreaded tires, either the full or a partial TIN containing all characters in the TIN, except for the date code, and at the discretion of the manufacturer, any optional code, must be labeled on the other sidewall of the tire.<sup>1</sup>

In its petition, Goodyear stated that the 18 Goodyear Eagle RS-A P235/

<sup>1</sup> Tires manufactured after September 1, 2009 must be labeled with the TIN on the intended outboard sidewall of a tire and either the TIN or partial TIN on the other sidewall. 49 CFR 571.139 S5.5.1(b). If a tire manufactured after September 1, 2009 does not have an intended outboard sidewall, one sidewall must be labeled with the TIN and the other sidewall must have either a TIN or partial TIN. *Id.*

55R18 99V passenger car tires were mismarked.

Goodyear described the noncompliance as a failure to mark the tires with a complete or partial TIN on the sidewall opposite the sidewall with the full TIN. Thus, Goodyear describes the noncompliance as follows:

Actual stamping is "NOT FOR SALE" (on one sidewall) Correct stamping should be: "M60Y LNER." (on that sidewall).

Goodyear makes the argument that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety because the tires meet or exceed all other applicable FMVSS performance standards, and that the tires were designed, manufactured and tested to the standards and regulations as applicable and they meet all regulatory performance test requirements.

Goodyear also explains its belief that the Tire Identification Number (TIN) and the partial TIN are used to properly identify tires that are involved in a safety campaign. Goodyear stated its belief that the full TIN is molded on the intended outboard sidewall of these tires and consumers could be directed to have both sidewalls inspected for the TIN if any safety campaign would be required for these tires in the future. Goodyear compared this situation to that of any tire involved in a safety campaign that required the 4-digit week and year code to determine if it were involved.

Goodyear also stated that it has corrected the problem that caused these errors so that they will not be repeated in future production.

In summation, Goodyear states that it believes that because the noncompliances are inconsequential to motor vehicle safety that no corrective action is warranted.

#### NHTSA's Decision

NHTSA does not agree that Goodyear's noncompliance with FMVSS No. 139 is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. As discussed below, the tire markings required by paragraph S5.5.1(a) of FMVSS No. 139 provide valuable information to assist consumers in determining if their tires are the subject of a safety recall.

The Firestone tire recalls in year 2000 highlighted the difficulty that consumers experienced when attempting to determine whether a tire is subject to a recall if the tire is mounted so that the sidewall bearing the TIN faces inward, i.e., underneath the vehicle. After a series of congressional hearings about the safety of and experiences regarding the Firestone tires involved in those recalls,