DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office


ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this extension of a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before December 28, 2009.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:
- E-mail: Susan.Fawcett@uspto.gov. Include “0651–0038 Customer Input: United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Surveys comment” in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: 571–273–0112, marked to the attention of Susan K. Fawcett.
- Mail: Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Information Management Services, Data Management Division, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martin Rater, Management Analyst, Office of Patent Quality Assurance, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450; by telephone at 571–272–5966; or by e-mail at martin.rater@uspto.gov with “Paperwork” in the subject line.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This is a generic clearance for an undefined number of voluntary surveys that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) may conduct over the next three years. The USPTO uses telephone surveys, questionnaires, and customer surveys to collect feedback from their customers. With the exception of the telephone surveys, the surveys are mailed to the USPTO’s customers. The USPTO provides the option for customers to respond to the questionnaires and surveys electronically. Although the USPTO is moving to an electronic environment and would prefer to administer the questionnaires and customer surveys wholly via the Web to coincide with other e-government initiatives, the USPTO’s customers have requested that the surveys be made available in paper format as well since many of them only find the time to complete the surveys during their commutes, on planes, etc., where they do not have Internet access. Consequently, the surveys are primarily answered in the paper format.

Customers either access the survey in question through the USPTO’s Web site or through the Web sites of the USPTO’s survey contractors. Instructions for using the online surveys are provided in the cover letter that accompanies the survey. The cover letter also contains the username and password required to enter the survey site and the access code to activate the survey. The electronic version of the survey mirrors the paper version.

The surveys in this collection are designed to obtain customer feedback regarding products, services, and related service standards of the USPTO. At this time, the USPTO is unable to state precisely which survey vehicles will be used during the renewal period. As the USPTO’s survey needs are determined, the USPTO will submit the specific survey instrument for approval.

II. Method of Collection

These surveys will either be conducted by telephone, mailed to the USPTO in a pre-addressed, self-stamped envelope, or completed electronically. A random sample is used to collect the data. Statistical methods will be followed.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651–0038.

Form Number(s): N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for profits.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,900 responses per year.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 15 minutes (0.25 hours) to complete the telephone surveys and 5 minutes (.08 hours) to complete the questionnaires and customer surveys, whether they are mailed to the USPTO or submitted electronically. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, complete the surveys, and submit them to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 220 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: $57,420. The USPTO believes that both professionals and paraprofessionals will complete these surveys, at a rate of 76% of the current professional rate of $310 ($236) per hour and 25% of the paraprofessional rate of $100 ($25) per hour. Using a combination of these rates, the USPTO is using an hourly rate of $261 to calculate the respondent costs. The USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for this collection will be $57,420 per year.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Request for Revocation in Part

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (“the Department”) has received requests to conduct administrative reviews of various antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings with September anniversary dates. In accordance with the Department’s regulations, we are initiating those administrative reviews. The Department also received a request to revoke one countervailing duty order in part.

DATES: Effective Date: October 26, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheila E. Forbes, Office of AD/CVD Operations, Customs Unit, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. Further, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.303(f)(1)(i), a copy of each request must be served on every party on the Department’s service list.

Background

The Department has received timely requests, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b), for administrative reviews of various antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings with September anniversary dates. The Department also received a timely request to revoke in part the countervailing duty order on Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from the Republic of Korea, with respect to one exporter.

Notice of No Sales

Under 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3), the Department may rescind a review where there are no exports, sales, or entries of subject merchandise during the respective period of review listed below. If a producer or exporter named in this notice of initiation had no exports, sales, or entries during the period of review, it should notify the Department within 30 days of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. The Department will consider rescinding the review only if the producer or exporter, as appropriate, submits a properly filed and timely statement certifying that it had no exports, sales, or entries of subject merchandise during the period of review.

Respondent Selection

In the event the Department limits the number of respondents for individual examination for administrative reviews, the Department intends to select respondents based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) data for U.S. imports during the period of review (“POR”). We intend to release the CBP data under Administrative Protective Order (“APO”) to all parties having an APO within five days of publication of this initiation notice and to make our decision regarding respondent selection within 20 days of publication of this Federal Register notice. The Department invites comments regarding the CBP data and respondent selection within 10 calendar days of publication of this Federal Register notice.

Separate Rates

In proceedings involving non-market economy (“NME”) countries, the Department begins with a rebuttable presumption that all companies within the country are subject to government control and, thus, should be assigned a single antidumping duty deposit rate. It