(2) A VRS provider seeking to voluntarily interrupt service for a period of 30 minutes or more in duration must first obtain Commission authorization by submitting a written request to the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) at least 60 days prior to any planned service interruption, with detailed information of:
   (i) Its justification for such interruption;
   (ii) Its plan to notify customers about the impending interruption; and
   (iii) Its plans for resuming service, so as to minimize the impact of such disruption on consumers through a smooth transition of temporary service to another provider, and restoration of its service at the completion of such interruption. CGB will grant or deny such a request and provide a response to the provider at least 35 days prior to the proposed interruption, in order to afford an adequate period of notification to consumers. If CGB denies such a request, CGB will consider such factors as the length of time of the proposed interruption, the reason for such interruption, the frequency with which such requests have been made by the provider in the past, the potential impact of the interruption on consumers, and the provider’s plans for a smooth service restoration.

(3) In the event of an unforeseen service interruption due to circumstances beyond an Internet-based TRS service provider’s control, or in the event of a VRS provider’s voluntary service interruption of less than 30 minutes in duration, the provider must submit a written notification to CGB within two business days of the commencement of the service interruption, with an explanation of when and how the provider has restored service or the provider’s plan to do so imminently. In the event the provider has not restored service at the time such report is filed, the provider must submit a second report within two business days of the restoration of service with an explanation of when and how the provider has restored service. The provider also must provide notification of service outages covered by this paragraph to consumers on an accessible Web site, and that notification of service status must be updated in a timely manner.

(4) A VRS provider that fails to obtain prior Commission authorization for a voluntary service interruption or fails to provide written notification after a voluntary service interruption of less than 30 minutes in duration, or an Internet-based TRS provider that fails to provide written notification after the commencement of an unforeseen service interruption due to circumstances beyond the provider’s control in accordance with this subsection, may be subject to revocation of certification, suspension of payment from the TRS Fund, or other enforcement action by the Commission, as appropriate.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission’s Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program, Order (Order), document FCC 11–118 adopted July 28, 2011, and released July 28, 2011, in CG Docket No. 10–51, adopting interim rules related to the Commission certification process for iTRS providers. The full text of FCC 11–118 and copies of any subsequently filed documents in this matter will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–A257, Washington, DC 20554. FCC 11–118 and copies of subsequently filed documents in this matter may also be purchased from the Commission’s duplicating contractor, Best Copying and Printing, Inc. (BCPI), at Portals II, 445 12th Street SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554. Customers may contact BCPI at its Web site, http://www.bcpiwweb.com, or by calling 202–488–5300. FCC 11–118 can also be downloaded in Word or Portable Document Format (PDF) at: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/trs.html#orders. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice). (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

Congressional Review Act


Final Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Analysis

The interim rules adopted in document FCC 11–118 contain new information collection requirements subject to the PRA. Document FCC 11–118 will be submitted to OMB for review under section 3507(d) of the PRA. OMB, the general public, and other Federal agencies are invited to comment on the new information collection requirements contained in this proceeding. While the interim rules in document FCC 11–118 are being adopted without a notice and comment, and therefore are not subject to Regulatory Flexibility Act analysis
under 5 U.S.C. 604(a), the Commission believes that the information collection burden on small businesses from the interim rules is de minimis. Specifically, to the extent they require that providers support their certification applications and annual compliance filings with a certification, under penalty of perjury, as to the truthfulness, accuracy, and completeness of the filings, this merely entails adding the language specifically provided in the interim rules and having the filing signed by a senior executive. The Commission therefore concludes that the information collection burden associated with the interim rules is de minimis.

Synopsis

In document FCC 11–118, the Commission adopts interim rules requiring that providers certify, under penalty of perjury, that their certification applications and annual compliance filings required under §64.606(g) of the Commission’s rules are truthful, accurate, and complete. The Commission finds good cause to adopt the interim rules to ensure that providers seeking certification and providers holding certifications may be held accountable for their submissions as they seek to secure or retain certification under the rules adopted in the Second Report and Order portion of document FCC 11–118.

The Commission previously has found that requiring a signed statement sworn to be true under penalty of perjury is a vehicle long and regularly used in a myriad of legal contexts to guarantee the veracity of the declarations, as well as to provide a means for civil enforcement and criminal prosecution to hold high level officials accountable for the actions and submissions of their companies. In addition, any applicant for, or holder of, any Commission authorization already is required to ensure that its statements to the Commission are truthful, accurate, and complete under the Commission’s rules. Consistent with these existing requirements, the Commission concludes that interim rules requiring certification by a senior executive, under penalty of perjury, to the truthfulness, accuracy, and completeness of certification applications and annual compliance filings are a necessary and critical component of the Commission’s efforts to curtail fraud and abuse. In particular, these interim rules will help to ensure that the Commission has true and complete information, thereby ensuring that only qualified providers are eligible for compensation from the Fund.

The Commission finds good cause to adopt the interim rules without notice and comment, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), in light of the impending deadlines for initial and re-certification applications. The current stay of the Commission’s rule which prohibits revenue sharing arrangements expires on October 1, 2011, and iTRS providers who are not eligible to receive compensation directly from the Fund but are currently providing service under a revenue sharing arrangement will no longer be able to provide service through such arrangements. Similarly, providers currently eligible for compensation from the Fund via a means other than Commission certification must apply for certification within 30 days after the final rules adopted in document FCC 11–118 become effective, and providers with Commission certifications expiring November 4, 2011 must apply for recertification after the rules become effective but at least 30 days prior to their expirations provided that the rules are effective by that date, or risk having to shut down their operations and being denied compensation from the Fund. The Commission therefore finds that interim rules are consistent with the public interest, given the importance of ensuring that only qualified providers are certified to become eligible for compensation from the Fund. The Commission concludes that notice and comment, in this instance, are impracticable given the impending certification application deadlines. In a forthcoming Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the Commission will seek additional comment on whether to make these rules permanent.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The interim rules adopted in document FCC 11–118 are being adopted without notice and comment, and therefore are not subject to Regulatory Flexibility Act analysis under 5 U.S.C. 604(a). The Commission will perform the appropriate regulatory flexibility analyses for any permanent rules adopted at a later date.

Ordering Clauses

Pursuant to sections 1, 4(i), (j) and (o), 225, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), (j) and (o), 225, and 303(r), and section 553(b)(3)(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), document FCC 11–118 is ADOPTED. Pursuant to §1.427(a) of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR 1.427(a), document FCC 11–118 shall be effective September 6, 2011, except 47 CFR 64.606 (a)(2)(v) and (g)(2), which require approval by OMB under the PRA and which shall become effective after the Commission publishes a notice in the Federal Register announcing such approval and the relevant effective date.

The Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Reference Information Center, shall send a copy of document FCC 11–118 to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 64

Individuals with disabilities. Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Telecommunications.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

Rule Changes

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission amends 47 CFR part 64 as follows:

PART 64—MISCELLANEOUS RULES RELATING TO COMMON CARRIERS

1. The authority citation for part 64 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 234(k); secs. 403(b)(2)(B), (c), Pub. L. 104–104, 110 Stat. 56. Interpret or apply 47 U.S.C. 201, 218, 225, 226, 228, 254(k), and 620, unless otherwise noted.

2. Section 64.606 is amended by revising paragraph (a)(2)(v) and paragraph (g) to read as follows:

§64.606 Internet-based TRS provider and TRS program certification.

(a) * * *

(2) * * *

(v) The chief executive officer (CEO), chief financial officer (CFO), or other senior executive of an applicant for Internet-based TRS certification under this section with first hand knowledge of the accuracy and completeness of the information provided, when submitting an application for certification under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, must certify as follows: I swear under penalty of perjury that I am an officer of the above-named applicant, and that I have examined the foregoing submissions, and that all information required under the Commission’s rules and orders has been provided and all statements of fact, as well as all documentation contained in this submission, are true, accurate, and complete.

(g) Internet-based TRS providers certified under this section shall file with the Commission, on an annual

The Commission makes these rules permanent.
basis, a report demonstrating that they are in compliance with § 64.604.

(1) Such reports must update the information required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section and include updated documentation and a summary of the updates, or certify that there are no changes to the information and documentation submitted with the application for certification, application for renewal of certification, or the most recent annual report, as applicable.

(2) The chief executive officer (CEO), chief financial officer (CFO), or other senior executive of an Internet-based TRS provider under this section with first hand knowledge of the accuracy and completeness of the information provided, when submitting an annual report under paragraph (g) of this section, must, with each such submission, certify as follows: I swear under penalty of perjury that I am (name and title), an officer of the above-named reporting entity, and that I have examined the foregoing submissions, and that all information required under the Commission’s rules and orders has been provided and all statements of fact, as well as all documentation contained in this submission, are true, accurate, and complete.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2011–19793 Filed 8–4–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
National Highway Transportation Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 563
[Docket No. NHTSA–2011–0106]
RIN 2127–AK71

Event Data Recorders

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule; response to petitions for reconsideration.

SUMMARY: On January 14, 2008, the agency published a final rule amending the requirements for event data recorders (EDRs). The January 2008 document responded to petitions for reconsideration of the original August 2006 final rule that established the EDR standardization requirements for those voluntarily installed. In response to the January 14, 2008, final rule, the agency received three petitions for reconsideration from the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers (Alliance), the Association of International Automobile Manufacturers, Inc. Technical Affairs Committee (AIAM), and Mr. Thomas Kowalick, a private citizen. After careful consideration, the agency is granting some aspects of the petitions, and denying others.

DATES: Effective Date: The amendments in this rule take effect October 4, 2011.

Compliance Dates: Except as provided below, light vehicles manufactured on or after September 1, 2012, that are equipped with an EDR and manufacturers of those vehicles must comply with this rule. However, vehicles that are manufactured in two or more stages or that are altered (prior to first sale) are not required to comply with the rule until September 1, 2013.

 Voluntary compliance is permitted before that date.

Petitions: If you wish to submit a petition for reconsideration of this rule, your petition must be received by September 19, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Petitions for reconsideration should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20590. Please see the Privacy Act heading under Rulemaking Analyses and Notices.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical and policy issues, contact: David Sutula, Office of Crashworthiness Standards, NVS–112. Telephone: (202) 366–3273. Facsimile: (202) 366–7002. For legal issues, contact: Mr. David Jasinski, Office of the Chief Counsel, NCC–112. Telephone: (202) 366–2992. Facsimile: (202) 366–3820. Both persons may be reached by mail at the following address:

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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I. Background

In August 2006, NHTSA issued a final rule to establish uniform performance requirements for the accuracy, collection, storage, survivability, and retrievability of onboard motor vehicle crash event data recorders (EDRs) voluntarily installed in passenger cars and other light vehicles. This final rule was intended to standardize the data obtained through EDRs so that such data would be put to the most effective future use.

Specifically, the regulation, 49 CFR part 563 (Part 563), applies to passenger cars, multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 3,855 kg (8,500 pounds) or less and an unloaded vehicle weight of 2,495 kg (5,500 pounds) or less, except for walk-in van-type trucks or vehicles designed to be sold exclusively to the U.S. Postal Service, that are equipped with an event data recorder and to the manufacturers of these vehicles. The final rule is intended to be technology-neutral, so as to permit compliance with any available EDR technology that meets the specified performance requirements.

In January 2008 (73 FR 2168), the agency amended the EDR final rule in the following ways:

- We clarified the event storage definitions to alleviate any uncertainties in multiple event crashes,
- Revised certain sensor ranges and accuracies to reflect current state of the art technologies,
- Clarified the recorded data reporting format,
- Specified vehicle storage conditions during compliance testing,
- Clarified the required data elements and scope of covered sensors, and
- Revised the effective date to provide additional time for manufacturers and suppliers to comply with the rule.

The agency made these technical changes to encourage broad application of EDR technologies in motor vehicles and maximize the usefulness of EDR data for vehicle designers, researchers, and the medical community, without imposing unnecessary burdens or deterring future improvements to EDRs that have been voluntarily installed. The final rule also changed the effective date to September 1, 2012, to provide manufacturers more time to implement the necessary changes to EDR architectures within their normal product development cycles. NHTSA also issued a Federal Register notice on February 8, 2008, (73 FR 8408) to correct the placement of decimal points for data in Table II of the final rule.