Monument within NOAA’s National Ocean Service. The Natural Resources Section of the Office of NOAA General Counsel supports litigation for ONMS. ONMS conducts NRDA as a basis for recovering damages from responsible parties and uses recovered funds to restore injured sanctuary resources. When addressing NRDA incidents, NOAA seeks to recover the costs of the damage assessment from responsible parties who are potentially liable for an incident. Costs include direct and indirect costs. Direct costs are costs for activities that are clearly and readily attributable to a specific output. In the context of the ONMS, outputs are typically associated with damage assessment cases. Indirect costs reflect the costs for activities that collectively support the ONMS’s mission and operations in support of NRDA work, but not connected to specific cases. For example, indirect costs include general administrative support and traditional overheads. Although these costs may not be readily traced back to a specific direct activity, indirect costs may be allocated to direct activities using an indirect cost distribution rate.

Consistent with standard federal accounting requirements, the ONMS is required to account for and report the full costs of its programs and activities. Further, the ONMS is authorized by law to recover reasonable costs of damage assessment and restoration activities under CERCLA, OPA, and the NMSA. Within the constraints of these legal provisions and their regulatory applications, the ONMS has the discretion to develop indirect cost rates for its component organizations and formulate policies on the recovery of indirect cost rates subject to its requirements.

The ONMS’s Indirect Cost Effort

In October 2002, the ONMS hired the public accounting firm Copper & Company (C&C) to: (1) Evaluate the cost accounting system and allocation practices; (2) recommend the appropriate indirect cost allocation methodology; and, (3) determine the indirect cost rates for the organizations that comprise the ONMS.

The ONMS requested an analysis of its indirect costs for fiscal year 2002. The goal was to develop the most appropriate indirect cost rate allocation methodology and rates for the ONMS component organizations. C&C also determined that the most appropriate indirect allocation method was the Direct Labor Cost Base for all ONMS and GCNR component organizations. The Direct Labor Cost Base is computed by allocating total indirect costs over the sum of direct labor dollars plus the application of NOA’s leave surcharge and benefits rates to direct labor. The indirect cost rates that C&C has computed for the ONMS and GCNR component organizations were further assessed as being fair and equitable. A report on C&C’s effort, their assessment of the ONMS’s cost accounting system and practice, and their determination respecting the most appropriate indirect cost methodology and rates can be obtained from: Lisa Symons, ONMS 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

C&C reaffirmed that the Direct Labor Cost Base is the most appropriate indirect allocation method for the development of the FY 2008 and 2009 indirect cost rates.

The ONMS’s Indirect Cost Rates and Policies

The ONMS will apply the indirect cost rates for FY 2008 and 2009 as recommended by C&C for each ONMS component as provided in the following table. The ONMS will apply the FY 2009 indirect rate to the Natural Resources Section as noted in the following table. Prior year indirect costs can be found in notices from the NOAA Office of Response and Restoration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONMS component</th>
<th>FY 2008 indirect rate (percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONMS Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS)</td>
<td>310.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONMS All sites, except FKNMS</td>
<td>269.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONMS component</th>
<th>FY 2009 indirect rate (percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONMS Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS)</td>
<td>397.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONMS All sites, except FKNMS</td>
<td>336.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources Section, Office of General Counsel</td>
<td>ONMS cases only ................. 74.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The FY 2008 and 2009 rates identified in this policy will be applied to all damage assessment and restoration case costs incurred between October 1, 2008 and present, using the Direct Labor Cost base allocation methodology. For cases that have settled and for costs claims paid prior to the effective date of the fiscal year in question, the ONMS will not re-open any resolved matters for the purpose of applying the rates in this policy. For cases not settled and cost claims not paid prior to the effective date of the fiscal year in question, costs will be recalculated using the rates in this policy. The ONMS will use the FY 2009 rates for damage assessment and restoration case costs incurred from October 1, 2008 through future fiscal years until year-specific rates are developed.


Daniel Basta,
Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.
[FR Doc. 2012–2953 Filed 2–13–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–NK–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).


Title: Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Certificate Action Form.

Form Number(s): PTO–2042.

Agency Approval Number: 0651–0045.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 2,250 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 4,500 responses per year.

Avg. Hours per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to read the instructions and subscriber agreement, gather the necessary information, prepare the Certificate Action Form, and submit the completed request.

Needs and Uses: The USPTO uses Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) technology to support electronic commerce between the USPTO and its customers. In order to access secure online systems offered by the USPTO for transactions such as electronic filing of patent applications and retrieving confidential patent application information, customers must first obtain a digital certificate. The public uses this collection to request a new digital certificate, the revocation of a current
certificate, or the recovery of a lost certificate.

This collection includes the Certificate Action Form (PTO–2042), which is provided by the USPTO to ensure that customers submit the necessary information for processing certificate requests. The accompanying subscriber agreement explains the regulations governing the use of the digital certificates and the software that creates and validates the encryption keys.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent’s Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Nicholas A. Fraser, email: Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov.

Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through the Information Collection Review page at www.reginfo.gov. Paper copies can be obtained by:

• Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov

Include “00651–0045 copy request” in the subject line of the message.

• Mail: Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before March 15, 2012 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to 202–395–5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.


Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012–3392 Filed 2–13–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Determination Under the Textile and Apparel Commercial Availability Provision of the Dominican Republic–Central America–United States Free Trade Agreement ("CAFTA–DR Agreement")

AGENCY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

ACTION: Determination to add a product in unrestricted quantities to Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement.

DATES: Effective Date: February 14, 2012.

SUMMARY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements ("CITA") has determined that certain faux suede bonded to faux fur pile fabric, as specified below, is not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the CAFTA–DR countries. The product will be added to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement in unrestricted quantities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


Background: The CAFTA–DR Agreement provides a list in Annex 3.25 for fabrics, yarns, and fibers that the Parties to the CAFTA–DR Agreement have determined are not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the territory of any Party. The CAFTA–DR Agreement provides that this list may be modified pursuant to Article 3.25(4)(–5), when the President of the United States determines that a fabric, yarn, or fiber is not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner in the territory of any Party. See Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement; see also section 203(o)(4)(C) of the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act.

The CAFTA–DR Implementation Act requires the President to establish procedures governing the submission of a request and providing opportunity for interested entities to submit comments and supporting evidence before a commercial availability determination is made. In Presidential Proclamations 7987 and 7996, the President delegated to CITA the authority under section 203(o)(4) of CAFTA–DR Implementation Act for modifying the Annex 3.25 list. Pursuant to this authority, on September 15, 2008, CITA published modified procedures it would follow in considering requests to modify the Annex 3.25 list of products determined to be not commercially available in the territory of any Party to CAFTA–DR (Modifications to Procedures for Considering Requests Under the Commercial Availability Provision of the Dominican Republic–Central America–United States Free Trade Agreement, 73 FR 53200) (“CITA’s procedures”).

On January 9, 2012, the Chairman of CITA received a request for a Commercial Availability determination (“Request”) from Alston & Bird on behalf of S. Rothschild & Co., Inc. for certain faux suede bonded to faux fur pile fabric, as specified below. On January 11, 2012, in accordance with CITA’s procedures, CITA notified interested parties of the Request, which was posted on the dedicated Web site for CAFTA–DR Commercial Availability proceedings. In its notification, CITA advised that any Response with an Offer to Supply (“Response”) must be submitted by January 24, 2012, and any Rebuttal Comments to a Response (“Rebuttal”) must be submitted by January 30, 2012, in accordance with sections 6 and 7 of CITA’s procedures.

No interested entity submitted a Response to the Request advising CITA of its objection to the Request and its ability to supply the subject product. In accordance with section 203(o)(4)(C) of the CAFTA–DR Implementation Act, and section 8(c)(2) of CITA’s procedures, as no interested entity submitted a Response objected to the Request and demonstrating its ability to supply the subject product, CITA has determined to add the specified fabric to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement.

The subject product has been added to the list in Annex 3.25 of the CAFTA–DR Agreement in unrestricted quantities. A revised list has been posted on the dedicated Web site for CAFTA–DR Commercial Availability proceedings.

Specifications: Certain Faux Suede Bonded to Faux Fur Pile Fabric

HTS: 6001.10.2000

Note: If CBP classified the fabric based on its woven face, then it would be classifiable in one of the following subheadings within heading 5407, covering woven fabrics of synthetic staple fibers, including HTSUS 5407.52.2060, 5407.53.2060, 5407.61.9935, 5407.69.2060, 5407.60.4060, 5407.72.0060, 5407.73.2060, 5407.92.2010 or 5407.92.2090, or under one of the following subheadings within heading 5512, covering woven fabrics of synthetic filament yarn, including HTSUS 5512.19.00, 5512.91.00, and 5512.99.00. Fabric Type: Faux suede bonded to faux fur pile fabric.