This final rule modifies BEA's surveys, which are provided for by the International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act (22 U.S.C. 3101 to 3116, the Act), 77 FR 772. For surveys on international trade in services and direct investment, including applicable report forms and instructions, will be separately published in the Federal Register. Only respondents notified of these surveys are required to respond to BEA surveys.

BEA received no comments on the proposed rule, and adopts the proposed rule without change. Accordingly, new surveys on international trade in services and on direct investment will be issued by a notice in the Federal Register, and will also be sent to individual respondents. Entities that do not receive a notice of the survey from BEA are not required to complete the survey.

Executive Order 12866

This final rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Executive Order 13132

This final rule does not contain policies with Federalism implications sufficient to warrant preparation of a Federalism assessment under E.O. 13132.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Chief Counsel for Regulation, Department of Commerce, certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration, under the provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), that this final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small
entities. The rule affects only BEA’s internal procedures regarding how it conducts surveys of international trade in services and direct investment. None of the changes will have a direct effect on any businesses, large or small. Those subject to these surveys will still be required to respond to BEA’s requests for information, but the requests themselves will not be subject to notice and comment rulemaking. Therefore, the effect of this final rule is to simplify and generalize existing regulations governing the procurement of information on the international trade in services and direct investment under the Act. Because there will be no impact to small entities as a result of this change to the regulations, the Chief Counsel certified that this final rulemaking will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, no final regulatory flexibility analysis is required, and none has been prepared.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule contains no information collection requests as defined in the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 USC 3501–3521). However, as necessary the individual notices of surveys will include a description of the paperwork burden associated with completing the survey, and provide the control number from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for any survey issued pursuant to this rule. No one is required to answer any request by the government for information that does not contain an approved OMB control number.

List of Subjects

15 CFR Part 801

Cross-border transactions, Credit card, Debit card, Economic statistics, Foreign investment in the United States, Foreign trade, International transactions, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Travel expenses, United States investment abroad.

15 CFR Part 806

Economic statistics, Foreign investments in United States, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, United States investment abroad.

15 CFR Part 807

Libraries.

Dated: April 15, 2012.

J. Steven Landefeld,
Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, 15 CFR chapter VIII is amended as follows:

1. Part 801 is revised to read as follows:

PART 801—SURVEYS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES OF UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN PERSONS AND SURVEYS OF DIRECT INVESTMENT

Sec. 801.1 Purpose.

801.2 Definitions.

801.3 Reporting requirements.

801.4 Recordkeeping requirements.

801.5 Confidentiality.

801.6 Penalties specified by law.


§ 801.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to provide general information on international trade in services and direct investment data collection programs and analyses under the International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act (22 U.S.C. 3101 to 3108, as amended) (the Act). The purpose of the Act is to provide for the collection of comprehensive and reliable information pertaining to international investment, including international trade in services and direct investment, and to do so with a minimum of burden on respondents and with no unnecessary duplication of effort.

§ 801.2 Definitions.

For purposes of the Act and for reporting requirements under this part:

(a) United States, when used in a geographic sense, means the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and all territories and possessions of the United States.

(b) Foreign, when used in a geographic sense, means that which is situated outside the United States or which belongs to or is characteristic of a country other than the United States.

(c) Person means any individual, branch, partnership, associated group, association, estate, trust, corporation, or other organization (whether or not organized under the laws of any State), and any government (including a foreign government, the United States Government, a State or local government, and any agency, corporation, financial institution, or other entity or instrumentality thereof, including a government-sponsored agency).

(d) United States person means any person resident in the United States or subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(e) Foreign person means any person resident outside the United States or subject to the jurisdiction of a country other than the United States.

(f) Business enterprise means any organization, association, branch, or venture which exists for profit-making purposes or to otherwise secure economic advantage, and any ownership of any real estate.

(g) Services are economic activities whose outputs are other than tangible goods. This term includes, but is not limited to, banking, other financial services, insurance, transportation, communications and data processing, retail and wholesale trade, advertising, accounting, construction, design, engineering, management consulting, real estate, professional services, entertainment, education, and health care.

(h) International investment means:

(1) The ownership or control, directly or indirectly, by contractual commitment or otherwise, by foreign persons of any interest in property in the United States, or of stock, other securities, or short- and long-term debt obligations of a United States person; and

(2) The ownership or control, directly or indirectly, by contractual commitment or otherwise, by United States persons of any interest in property outside the United States, or of stock, other securities, or short- and long-term debt obligations of a foreign person.

(i) Direct investment means the ownership or control, directly or indirectly, by one person of 10 percent or more of the voting securities of an incorporated business enterprise or an equivalent interest in an unincorporated business enterprise.

§ 801.3 Reporting requirements.

(a) Notice of specific reporting requirements, including who is required to report, the information to be reported, the manner of reporting, and the time and place of filing reports, will be published by the Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the Federal Register prior to the implementation of a survey.

(b) In accordance with section 3104(b)(2) of title 22 of the United States Code persons notified of these surveys and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States shall furnish, under oath, any report containing information which is determined to be necessary to carry out the surveys and studies provided for by the Act.
§ 801.4 Recording keeping requirements.

In accordance with section 3104(b)(1) of title 22 of the United States Code, persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States shall maintain any information which is essential for carrying out the surveys and studies provided for by the Act.

§ 801.5 Confidentiality.

Information collected pursuant to 3104(c) of title 22 of the United States Code is confidential.

(a) Access to this information shall be available only to officials and employees (including consultants and contractors and their employees) of agencies designated by the President to perform functions under the Act.

(b) Subject to paragraph (d) of this section, the President may authorize the exchange of information between agencies or officials designated to perform functions under the Act.

(c) Nothing in this part shall be construed to require any Federal agency to disclose information otherwise protected by law.

(d) This information shall be used solely for analytical or statistical purposes or for a proceeding under § 801.6.

(e) No official or employee (including consultants and contractors and their employees) shall publish or make available to any other person any information collected under the Act in such a manner that the person to whom the information relates can be specifically identified.

(f) Reports and copies of reports prepared pursuant to the Act are confidential and their submission or disclosure shall not be compelled by any person without the prior written permission of the person filing the report and the customer of such person where the information supplied is identifiable as being derived from the records of such customer.

§ 801.6 Penalties.

(a) Civil penalties. Whoever fails to furnish any information required by the Act or to comply with any rule, regulation, order or instruction promulgated under the Act shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $2,500, and not more than $25,000, and to injunctive relief commanding such person to comply, or both (see 22 U.S.C. 3105(a)). These civil penalties are subject to inflationary adjustments under the Act or to comply with any rule, regulation, order or instruction promulgated under the Act, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than $10,000 and, if an individual, may be imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. Any officer, director, employee, or agent of any corporation who knowingly participates in such violations, upon conviction, may be punished by a like fine, imprisonment or both (see 22 U.S.C. 3105(c)).

PART 806—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]

PART 807—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]

(b) Criminal penalties. Whoever knowingly participates in such violations, upon conviction, may be fined not more than $10,000 and, if an individual, may be imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. Any officer, director, employee, or agent of any corporation who knowingly participates in such violations, upon conviction, may be punished by a like fine, imprisonment or both (see 22 U.S.C. 3105(c)).

PART 806—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]

2. Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 301, part 806 is removed and reserved.

PART 807—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]

3. Under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 301, part 806 is removed and reserved.

[FR Doc. 2012–9849 Filed 4–23–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
19 CFR Parts 133 and 151
[USCBP–2012–0011; CBP Dec. 12–10]
RIN 1515–AD87

Disclosure of Information for Certain Intellectual Property Rights Enforced at the Border

AGENCIES: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Interim rule; solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: This document amends, on an interim basis, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations pertaining to importations of merchandise bearing recorded trademarks or recorded trade names. The interim amendments, effective upon publication in the Federal Register, allow CBP, subject to limitations, to disclose to an intellectual property right holder information appearing on merchandise or its retail packaging that may comprise information otherwise protected by the Trade Secrets Act, for the purpose of assisting CBP in determining whether the merchandise bears a counterfeit mark. Such information will be provided to the right holder in the form of photographs or a sample of the goods and/or their retail packaging in their condition as presented to CBP for examination and alphanumeric codes appearing on the goods. The information will include, but not be limited to, serial numbers, universal product codes, and stock keeping unit (SKU) numbers appearing on the imported merchandise and its retail packaging, whether in alphanumeric or other formats. These changes provide a pre-seizure procedure for disclosing information about imported merchandise suspected of bearing a counterfeit mark for the limited purpose of obtaining the right holder’s assistance in determining whether the mark is counterfeit or not.

DATES: Effective April 24, 2012; comments must be received on or before June 25, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number, by one of the following methods:


Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this interim rulemaking. All comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Public Participation” heading of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov. Submitted comments may also be inspected during regular business days between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Office of International Trade, Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 799 9th Street NW., 5th Floor, Washington, DC. Arrangements to inspect submitted comments should be made in advance by calling Joseph Clark at (202) 325–0118.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation

Interested persons are invited to participate in this rulemaking by