Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct laboratory analyses and gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited or approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific test or gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific test or gauger service this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to CBPGaugersLabs@cbp.dhs.gov. Please reference the website listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories. http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning Country of Origin of Fleetcam Vehicle Cameras


ACTION: Notice of final determination.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) has issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of a vehicle digital video camera known as the FleetCam™. Based upon the facts presented, CBP has concluded that the processing in the United States does not substantially transform the imported digital video cameras for purposes of U.S. Government procurement.

DATES: The final determination was issued on May 18, 2018. A copy of the final determination is attached. Any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of this final determination within June 25, 2018.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that on May 18, 2018, pursuant to subpart B of Part 177, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Regulations (19 CFR part 177, subpart B), CBP issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of the FleetCam™ digital video camera, which may be offered to the United States Government under an undesignated government procurement contract. This final determination, HQ H294933, was issued under the procedures set forth at 19 CFR part 177, subpart B, which implements Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511–18). In the final determination, CBP concluded the country of origin of the finished FleetCam™ was China, where the digital video camera and the camera’s firmware were manufactured.

Section 177.29, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.29), provides that a notice of final determination shall be published in the Federal Register within 60 days of the date the final determination is issued. Section 177.30, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.30), provides that any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of a final determination within 30 days of publication of such determination in the Federal Register.

Dated: May 18, 2018.

Alice A. Kipel,
Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade.

HQ H294933

May 18, 2018

OT:RR:CTF:VS H294933 RSD

CATEGORY: Origin

Upneet S. Teji, Esq.
Greensfelder, Henker & Gale, P.C.

220 Madison Street, Suite 3300
Chicago, Illinois 60606

RE: Final Determination of U.S. Government Procurement; Country of Origin of a FleetCam™ vehicle camera

Dear Mr. Teji:

This is in response to your eruling request of January 27, 2018, for a final determination on behalf of Forward Thinking Systems LLC, (the Company), concerning the country of origin of a FleetCam vehicle camera pursuant to subpart B of Part 177, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) Regulations (19 CFR § 177.21 et. seq.). We note that the Company is a party-at-interest within the meaning of 19 CFR § 177.22(d)(1) and is entitled to request this final determination.

FACTS:

The product at issue is referred to as a FleetCam, which is a high-resolution digital video camera installed in a vehicle for streaming and recording images in real time. The FleetCam allows companies who purchase the product to watch the drivers that they employ in real-time, as well as view recorded speeding and other behavior moments. The FleetCam is able to capture, record, and transmit images of a driver’s view of the road ahead. The FleetCam is comprised of a physical digital video camera or several cameras setup together. The product also contains related cabling and a receiver that is compatible for use specifically with the Company’s software and mobile applications. To use the FleetCam product, a user must purchase the hardware and a subscription to the software from the Company.

The FleetCam’s physical digital video camera is made in China and sourced by the Company from a Chinese firm. The firmware that is loaded onto the camera to allow it to be operational with the Company’s software was also developed by the Chinese firm; however, you state that the firmware was developed based upon the design, specifications, and software architecture produced by the Company’s staff located in the United States. The firmware developed for the FleetCam is designed specifically for use with the Company’s fleet management software. The digital camera hardware (together with the firmware) is purchased by the Company from a Chinese producer.

The firmware is not loaded onto the camera hardware until it is received by the Company in the United States. Upon receipt of the camera and the firmware code, the Company’s engineers load and install the firmware on the camera hardware at the Company’s offices in the United States. An additional hardware component of the

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FleetCam product is the telematics gateway unit (the “cabling”). The cabling units, including the receivers, are purchased from one or more manufacturers, and they are manufactured and procured from other TAA-compliant jurisdictions. The digital camera functionality (including without limitation, software applications and mobile applications) are designed, developed, and integrated with the Company’s cloud service in the United States. In order for the FleetCam to be functional and operational, the hardware and the related firmware is installed with the cabling and integrated with the FleetCam software platform. This compilation process occurs entirely in the United States.

The Company sells the FleetCam software as a software-as-a-service subscription, whereby the Company’s customers enter into a separate subscription for use of the FleetCam software. After purchase of the FleetCam hardware, the Company’s customers pay a separate monthly fee for using the proprietary software. The FleetCam hardware and software must be purchased together as part of the same package. Without the FleetCam software, it is stated that the camera and the related components are not operational. If a customer cancels its software subscription, the FleetCam product will no longer be functional.

**ISSUE:**

Whether the imported components including the digital video camera and cabling for the FleetCam are substantially transformed through the downloading of the Company’s proprietary software in the United States so as to make the FleetCam a product of the United States.

**LAW AND ANALYSIS:**

CBP applies the provisions of subpart B of Part 177 consistent with the Federal Procurement Regulations. See 19 C.F.R. § 177.21. In this regard, CBP recognizes that the Federal Acquisition Regulations restrict the U.S. Government’s purchase of products to U.S. end products for which substantial transformation occurred in the United States into a new and different article of commerce with name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed. See 46 C.F.R. § 5 23.003.

In Data General v. United States, 4 C.I.T. 182 (1982), the court determined that the programming of a foreign PROM (Programmable Read-Only Memory chip) in the United States substantially transformed the PROM into a U.S. article. In the United States, the substantial transformation occurred upon each integrated circuit’s electronic function, that is, its “memory” which could be retrieved. A distinct physical change was effected in the PROM by the opening or closing of the fuses, depending on the method of programming. The essence of the article, its interconnections or stored memory, was established by programming. See also, Texas Instruments v. United States, 681 F.2d 778, 782 (CCPA 1982) (stating the substantial transformation issue is a “mixed question of technology and customs law”); HQ H 120927, dated September 19, 1988 (stating that the blank media (EEPROM) with instructions that allow it to perform certain functions that prevent piracy of software constitutes a substantially transformation); and, HQ H 120918, dated June 28, 1993 (motherboards are not substantially transformed by the implanting of the central processing unit on the board because, whereas in Data General use was being assigned to the PROM, the use of the motherboard had already been determined when the importer imported it).

“The term ‘substantial transformation’ is defined as ‘one of the essentials of structure, form, materials, or function that together make up and usually distinguish the individual.’” National Hand Tool Corp. v. United States, 16 C.I.T. 308, 311 (1992) (citing Webster’s Third New International Dictionary (1981)). In National Juice Prods, Aor v. United States, the Court of International Trade applied the “essence test” and found that the fundamental character of orange juice concentrate was not changed by the addition of water, orange essences, and oils to make frozen concentrated orange juice, and hence, there was no substantial transformation. 10 C.I.T. 48, 628 F. Supp. 798 (1986).

HQ H 120923, dated May 19, 2016, reviewed the country of origin of hardware components of certain transceivers in two scenarios, and determined that the case at issue here. The hardware components of the transceivers were wholly manufactured in a foreign country and imported into the United States. In the first scenario, the transceivers were “blanks” and completely non-functional and specialized proprietary software was developed and downloaded in the United States, making the transceivers functional and compatible with the OEM technology. In the second scenario, the transceivers were preprogrammed with a generic program that was replaced with specialized proprietary software. It was determined that both scenarios are substantially transformed as a result of downloading performed in the United States, with proprietary software developed in the United States. However, in the second scenario, it was determined that since the transceivers had generic network functionality, programming them merely to customize their network compatibility would not actually change the identity of the imported transceivers. See also HQ H 2141177, dated December 3, 2013. Accordingly, it was determined that the country where the last substantial transformation occurred would be China or another Asian country where the hardware components were manufactured. A similar finding was made in HQ H 214523, dated August 23, 2017, where imported tablet computers were preprogrammed with a generic program when they were first imported. The tablets could perform all of the standard functions of an Android tablet in their imported condition. After importation, the imported tablets were customized for a particular use as part of a system to collect and transmit a patient’s medical data by the installation of proprietary software. The original tablet had the ability to perform all of previous functions, but it was determined that for ease of use and for other reasons it was best to disable these functions and to consolidate them in one function via the specialized software. It was stated that the general functionality of the tablet was removed and replaced so that it was easier for patients to use the device and access the system. It was also stated that the security of the patient’s medical data would be increased. In HQ H 214523, we noted that it was clear that merely loading the specialized software onto the tablet computer that remained fully functional as a computer would be insufficient to constitute a new and different article of commerce, since all of the functionality of the original computer would be retained.

In this case, the Company’s proprietary software is being installed onto a digital video camera so that the camera can provide live-streaming of a driver and his view of the road from multiple vantage points. In addition, after the software is installed onto the FleetCam, it is able to capture, record, and store footage of particular incidents that may have occurred. While the particular proprietary software is written and downloaded in the United States, this note that the firmware being used to operate the FleetCam, although designed in the United States, was not written in the United States, but in China. Therefore, similar to HQ H 214523, where the tablet could function, in this case, because the digital camera contains SD cards, it can fully function as a digital
video camera by capturing images and recording footage. The installation of the proprietary software onto the FleetCam only customizes the digital cameras to the Company’s particular use and does not change the basic identity of the imported digital video cameras because they retain all their functions with the same name, character and use of the imported digital video cameras. Therefore, we find that the FleetCam is not substantially transformed by the downloading of the Company’s proprietary software onto the imported digital video cameras, and the country of origin of the FleetCam will be China where the main hardware, including the digital cameras and the firmware, is manufactured.

HOLDING:

Based on the information presented in this case, the imported digital video cameras are not substantially transformed by the processing performed in the United States. Therefore, the country of origin of the FleetCam is the country where the digital video cameras and the firmware were originally produced, which in this case is China.

Notice of this final determination will be given in the Federal Register, as required by 19 C.F.R. § 177.29. Any party-at-interest other than the party which requested this final determination may request, pursuant to 19 C.F.R. § 177.31, that CBP reexamine the matter anew and issue a new final determination. Pursuant to 19 C.F.R. § 177.30, any party-at-interest may, within 30 days of publication of the Federal Register Notice referenced above, seek judicial review of this final determination before the Court of International Trade.

Sincerely,

Alice A. Kipel,
Executive Director,

Douglas N. Haywood,
Chief, Branch of Cadastral Survey,
Bureau of Land Management,
Alaska State Office,
222 W. 7th Avenue,
Anchorage, Alaska 99513;
dhaywood@blm.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLAK940000.L14100000. BX0000. 18X.LXS5001LO100]

Filing of Plats of Survey: Alaska

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of official filing.

SUMMARY: The plats of survey of lands described in this notice are scheduled to be officially filed in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Alaska State Office, Anchorage, Alaska. The surveys, which were executed at the request of the U.S. Coast Guard, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and BLM, are necessary for the management of these lands.

DATES: Protests must be received by the BLM by June 25, 2018.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the plats may be obtained from the Alaska Public Information Center at the BLM Alaska State Office, 222 W. 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99513, upon required payment. The plats may be viewed at this location at no cost. Please use this address when filing written protests.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:


Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To leave a message or question with the above individual, you will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lands surveyed are:

- U.S. Survey No. 3813, accepted March 5, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 3923, accepted March 5, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 4269, accepted March 5, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 4738, accepted January 5, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 9891, accepted January 5, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 14461, accepted March 13, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 14462, accepted March 13, 2018
- U.S. Survey No. 14478, accepted January 29, 2018

Copper River Meridian, Alaska

T. 67 S., R. 75 E., accepted April 4, 2018
T. 67 S., R. 76 E., accepted April 4, 2018
T. 68 S., R. 75 E., accepted April 4, 2018
T. 68 S., R. 76 E., accepted April 4, 2018
T. 69 S., R. 79 E., accepted March 26, 2018
T. 70 S., R. 79 E., accepted April 4, 2018
T. 75 S., R. 86 E., accepted April 4, 2018

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 2 S., R. 40 W., accepted May 1, 2018
T. 3 S., R. 40 W., accepted May 1, 2018

A person or party who wishes to protest one or more plats of survey identified above must file a written notice of protest with the State Director for Alaska, BLM. The notice of protest must identify the plat(s) of survey that the person or party wishes to protest. The notice of protest must be filed before the scheduled date of official filing for the plat(s) of survey being protested. Any notice of protest filed after the scheduled date of official filing will not be considered. A notice of protest is considered filed on the date it is received by the State Director for Alaska during regular business hours; if received after regular business hours, a notice of protest will be considered filed the next business day. A written statement of reasons in support of a protest, if not filed with the notice of protest, must be filed with the State Director for Alaska within 30 calendar days after the notice of protest is filed. If a notice of protest against a plat of survey is received prior to the scheduled date of official filing, the official filing of the plat of survey identified in the notice of protest will be stayed pending consideration of the protest. A plat of survey will not be officially filed until the dismissal or resolution of all protests of the plat.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in a notice of protest or statement of reasons, you should be aware that the documents you submit, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available in their entirety at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 43 U.S.C. Chap. 3.

Douglas N. Haywood,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Alaska.
[FR Doc. 2018–11148 Filed 5–23–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–JA–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–WASO–NNRHL–DTS#–25581; PWOWCRADIG, PCU00RP14.R50000]

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations and Related Actions

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before May 5, 2018, for listing or related actions in the National Register of Historic Places.

DATES: Comments should be submitted by June 8, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent via U.S. Postal Service and all other carriers to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St. NW, MS 7226, Washington, DC 20240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The properties listed in this notice are being considered for listing or related actions in the National Register of Historic Places.