

single-establishment firms in the sample were asked to report on the MA–10000(S). In 2014, approximately 3,000 out of 51,000 sampled establishments received the MA–10000(S). This change will impact less than 6% of respondents. The MA–10000(S) was an abbreviated version of the MA–10000(L), and collected significantly less detailed data. Data not collected on the MA–10000(S) were imputed. Imputation rates and estimates will improve by eliminating the MA–10000(S). The MA–10000(L) will be renamed MA–10000 and all ASM establishments will be required to complete the MA–10000.

The 2018 ASM will include two paths. The multiple-establishment firms will receive a questionnaire path that includes spreadsheet functionality. Firms will be able to enter data for their locations in a form view or select the spreadsheet option. Respondents have the ability to download, export, and import their spreadsheets. Respondents will have the option to “add locations” if there are establishments not listed for their firm. The path for single-establishment firms does not include spreadsheet functionality, or the ability to “add locations”. The multiple-establishment path includes instructions and a question related to interplant transfers; single-establishment firms do not have interplant transfers.

b. Elimination of Item 5B, Exports and Item 11, Inventories Outside the U.S.

Item 5B, Exports and Item 11, Inventories Outside the U.S. are no longer needed by either the International Trade Administration (ITA) or the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The elimination of these items was not documented in the ASM pre-submission notice dated July 13, 2018, because the decision was made after the notice was published in the **Federal Register**. Eliminating collection of these items has no impact on data users since these data items were not published as part of the ASM. Historically, exports data was used to publish the Exports from Manufacturing report, funded by ITA. This report was published by the U.S. Census Bureau and sponsored by ITA. <https://www.census.gov/manufacturing/exports/>. The Exports from Manufacturing report was discontinued by ITA in 2012, due to lack of funding.

c. Addition of Item 17, Principal Business Activity

Item 17, Principal Business Activity on the MA–10000 will ask the respondent to identify their principal

kind of business or activity. The question will pre-list suggested six-digit NAICS codes and descriptions for each establishment. The respondent will have the option to select the pre-listed NAICS that describes their principal business activity or to “write-in” their principal business activity if the pre-listed NAICS does not apply. Adding this question will help the Census Bureau identify out-of-scope establishments that do not conduct manufacturing activities and establishments which are classified in an incorrect manufacturing industry.

d. Change in Item 22, Product Classification

Previously, Item 22, Details of Sales Shipments Receipts or Revenue was collected on a NAICS basis. Beginning with the 2018 ASM, the collection of Item 22 will be based on the North American Product Classification System (NAPCS). NAPCS is a comprehensive demand-based hierarchical classification system for products that is not industry-of-origin based, but can be linked to the NAICS industry structure, and is consistent across the three North American countries. The primary objective of this product classification change is to identify, define, and classify the outputs produced and transacted (sold, transferred, or placed in inventory) by the reporting units within each industry regardless of their designation (intermediate or final). <https://www.census.gov/eos/www/napcs/>.

e. Elimination of Item 22, Miscellaneous Receipts

Due to the implementation of NAPCS, it is unnecessary to collect Miscellaneous Receipts. In previous ASM survey years, products were collected using only manufacturing sector NAICS codes. Non-manufacturing sector products, produced by manufacturing establishments were classified as Miscellaneous Receipts, which included contract work, resales, and other. NAPCS is an economy-wide solution, which allows ASM respondents to classify out of sector products in valid NAPCS codes.

f. Addition of Item 28, Special Inquiry on Robotic Use

Add a new Special Inquiry, Item 28 on basic robotic use in manufacturing to gauge the prevalence of robotics use in the manufacturing sector across different geographies and by firm size. Questions will be added to collect the number of industrial robots in operation, the number of industrial robots purchased, and the value of

capital expenditures for robotic equipment.

g. Item 29, Burden Estimate

Firms will be asked to provide an estimate of how long it took to complete the MA–10000 questionnaire. Responses to this question will be used to re-evaluate the burden hours we impose on respondents, given the various question additions, changes and deletions we are making. The Census Bureau will submit a nonsubstantive change request to revise the burden of this collection if analysis indicates a change. Efforts to analyze paradata to assess burden are currently being evaluated. ASM instrument paradata shows time logged-in and patterns of movement through the instrument, but not time spent reviewing instructions and gathering the necessary data. Nor does it provide an indication of idle time while the respondent is logged in. Paradata can help the Census Bureau calculate the time spent in the instrument but may not be a true reflection of respondent burden.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Sections 131 and 182.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202)395–5806.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2018–26537 Filed 12–6–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce 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.

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Automated Export System.

OMB Control Number: 0607–0152.

Form Number(s): Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) AESDirect Record Formats and related documents, including the AES Letter of Intent, ACE Exporter Account Application and Quick Reference Guide, AES Certification Statements, and the ACE AESDirect User Guide.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Number of Respondents: 287,314 filers who submit 17,315,950 shipments annually through the AES.

Average Hours per Response: 3 minutes per AES transaction.

Burden Hours: 865,798.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau requires mandatory filing of all export information via the AES. This requirement is mandated through Public Law 107-228 of the Foreign Trade Relations Act of 2003. This law authorizes the Secretary of Commerce with the concurrences of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security to require all persons who file export information according to Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Chapter 9, to file such information through the AES.

The AES is the primary instrument used for collecting export trade data, which are used by the Census Bureau for statistical purposes. The AES record provides the means for collecting data on U.S. exports. Title 13, U.S.C., Chapter 9, Sections 301-307, mandates the collection of these data. The regulatory provisions for the collection of these data are contained in the Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR), Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 30. The official export statistics collected from these tools provide the basic component for the compilation of the U.S. position on merchandise trade. These data are an essential component of the monthly totals provided in the U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services Press Release, a principal economic indicator and a primary component of the Gross Domestic Product. Traditionally, other federal agencies use the Electronic Export Information (EEI) for export control purposes to detect and prevent the export of certain items by unauthorized parties or to unauthorized destinations or end users. This information is noted in the ACE AESDirect User Guide.

Since 2016, the Census Bureau and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) have implemented the following enhancements to the AES, in accordance with revisions to the FTR: (1) Added the Original Internal Transaction Number (ITN) to the AES. The Original ITN field is an optional data element and is utilized if the filer

creates an additional AES record for a shipment that was previously filed; (2) added the Ultimate Consignee Type data field, which requires the filer to identify the ultimate consignee as a Direct Consumer, Government Entity, Reseller, or Other.

In addition, the Census Bureau and CBP implemented the following changes to the AES: (1) Added Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) Export Control Classification Numbers (ECCNs) and increased edits and validations between License Codes and ECCNs, including the addition of the 600 series ECCNs; (2) renamed the country Swaziland to Eswatini in the AES; and (3) removed the BIS license codes C32, C49, C55, and C56.

The Census Bureau also revised the FTR to clarify the split shipment requirements (82 FR 18383) and the collection of the Kimberley Process Certificates (83 FR 17749). Additionally, the Census Bureau revised language in the FTR to reflect the implementation of the International Trade Data System, in accordance with the Executive Order 13659, Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses.

These revisions made should not affect the average three-minute response time for the completion of the AES record: The Original ITN is an optional data element and filers will only report it when they choose to provide CBP with additional information about the export shipment; The Ultimate Consignee Type was added for the BIS for export enforcement purposes and is information that filers should know based on BIS's "Know Your Customer" guidance; The revision to the ECCNs and License Codes modified selections for fields that already exist.

Currently, the Census Bureau is drafting a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to clarify the responsibilities of parties participating in routed and standard export transactions. The Census Bureau published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) on October 6, 2017 (82 FR 46739) soliciting comments on the clarity, usability, and any other matters of interest to the trade community and the public related to the regulatory requirements for routed transactions. The Census Bureau considered all comments received in response to the ANPRM in drafting the NPRM. The NPRM potentially would propose revisions and add several key terms used in the regulatory provision of these transactions, including authorized agent, forwarding agent, standard export transaction and written release. While revisions to the FTR are necessary to improve clarity to the filing

requirements for the routed export transaction, it is critical for the Census Bureau to ensure that any revisions made to the FTR will allow for the continued collection and compilation of accurate trade statistics. Additionally, it is important that the responsibilities of the U.S. Principal Party in Interest (USPPI) and the U.S. authorized agent are clearly defined to ensure that the Electronic Export Information is filed by the appropriate party to prevent receiving duplicate filings or in some cases, no filings. The changes proposed in the NPRM will not have an impact on the reporting burden of the export trade community.

The information collected via the AES conveys what is being exported (description and commodity classification number), how much is exported (quantity, shipping weight, and value), how it is exported (mode of transport, exporting carrier, and whether containerized), from where (state of origin and port of export), to where (port of unloading and country of ultimate destination), and when a commodity is exported (date of exportation). The identification of the USPPI shows who is exporting goods. The USPPI and/or the forwarding or other agent information provides a contact for verification of the information.

The U.S. Federal Government uses every data element on the AES record. The Census Bureau published the Final Rule "Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR): Clarification on Filing Requirements" on April 19, 2017 (82 FR 18383) to update the language in the Foreign Trade Regulations to reflect the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The ITDS was established to eliminate the redundant information collection requirements, efficiently regulate the flow of commerce, and effectively enforce laws and regulations relating to international trade. ITDS establishes a single portal system for the collection and distribution of standard electronic import and export data required by all participating federal agencies. In addition, this Rule allows federal agencies with appropriate authority to access export data in the AES and ensure consistency with the Executive Order 13659, Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses, issued on February 19, 2014.

The data collected from the AES serves as the official record of export transactions. The mandatory use of the AES enables the Federal Government to produce more accurate export statistics. The Census Bureau delegated the

authority to enforce the FTR to the BIS's Office of Export Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security's CBP and Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. The mandatory use of the AES also facilitates the enforcement of the Export Administration Regulations for the detection and prevention of exports of high technology commodities to unauthorized destinations by the BIS and the CBP; the International Traffic in Arms Regulations by the U.S. Department of State for the exports of munitions; and the validation of the Kimberly Process Certificate for the exports of rough diamonds.

Other Federal agencies use these data to develop the components of the merchandise trade figures used to calculate the balance of payments and Gross Domestic Product accounts; to enforce U.S. export laws and regulations; to plan and examine export promotion programs and agricultural development and assistance programs; and to prepare for and assist in trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Collection of these data also eliminates the need for conducting additional surveys for the collection of information, as the AES shows the relationship of the parties to the export transaction (as required by the Bureau of Economic Analysis). These AES data are also used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as a source for developing the export price index and by the U.S. Department of Transportation for administering the negotiation of reciprocal arrangements for transportation facilities between the United States and other countries.

Export statistics collected from the AES aid state governments, private sector companies, financial institutions, and transportation entities in conducting market analysis and market penetration studies for the development of new markets and market-share strategies. A collaborative effort among the Census Bureau, the National Governors' Association and other data users resulted in the development of export statistics using the state of origin reported on the AES. This information enables state governments to focus activities and resources on fostering the exports of goods that originate in their states. Port authorities, steamship lines, airlines, aircraft manufacturers, and air transport associations use these data for measuring the volume and effect of air or vessel shipments and the need for additional or new types of facilities.

Affected Public: Individuals, Businesses.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 United States Code, Chapter 9, Section 301.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2018-26538 Filed 12-6-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B-49-2018]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 18—San Jose, California, Authorization of Production Activity, Tesla, Inc. (Electric Passenger Vehicles and Components), Fremont and Palo Alto, California

On August 1, 2018, Tesla, Inc. submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facilities within FTZ 18—Subzone 18G, in Fremont and Palo Alto, California.

The notification was processed in accordance with the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR part 400), including notice in the **Federal Register** inviting public comment (83 FR 40226, August 14, 2018). On November 29, 2018, the applicant was notified of the FTZ Board's decision that no further review of the activity is warranted at this time. The production activity described in the notification was authorized, subject to the FTZ Act and the FTZ Board's regulations, including Section 400.14.

Dated: November 29, 2018.

Andrew McGilvray,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-26547 Filed 12-6-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B-76-2018]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 70—Detroit, Michigan, Notification of Proposed Production Activity, Fluid Equipment Development Company, LLC (Energy Recovery Turbines and Centrifugal Pumps), Monroe, Michigan

The Greater Detroit Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc., grantee of FTZ 70, submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board on behalf of Fluid Equipment Development Company, LLC (FEDCO), located in Monroe, Michigan. The notification conforming to the requirements of the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR 400.22) was received on November 28, 2018.

The FEDCO facility is located within Site 77 of FTZ 70. The facility is used for the production of energy recovery turbines and centrifugal pumps used in water desalination. Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status materials and components and specific finished products described in the submitted notification (as described below) and subsequently authorized by the FTZ Board.

Production under FTZ procedures could exempt FEDCO from customs duty payments on the foreign-status components used in export production. On its domestic sales, for the foreign-status materials/components noted below, FEDCO would be able to choose the duty rates during customs entry procedures that apply to: Energy recovery turbines; single-stage pumps under 2-inch discharge; single-stage pumps over 2-inch discharge; single-stage pumps over 3-inch discharge; multi-stage centrifugal pumps; and, pump spare parts (duty-free). FEDCO would be able to avoid duty on foreign-status components which become scrap/waste. Customs duties also could possibly be deferred or reduced on foreign-status production equipment.

The components and materials sourced from abroad include: Steel cast flanges; steel cast rings; steel cast cavity covers; steel cast bearing holders; steel cast pump inlets; steel cast housings; steel cast seal carriers; and, steel cast impellers (duty rate 2.9%). The request indicates that the materials/components are subject to special duties under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 301), depending on the country of origin. The applicable Section 301 decisions require subject merchandise