

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508.

Comments will be placed in a file (Docket 301-116) open to public inspection pursuant to 15 CFR 2006.13, except confidential business information exempt from public inspection in accordance with 15 CFR 2006.15. Confidential business information submitted in accordance with 15 CFR 2006.15 must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page on each of 20 copies, and must be accompanied by a nonconfidential summary of the confidential information. The nonconfidential summary shall be placed in the file that is open to public inspection. Copies of the public version of the petition and other relevant documents are available for public inspection in the USTR Reading Room. An appointment to review the docket (Docket No. 301-116) may be made by calling Brenda Webb (202) 395-6186. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is located in Room 101.

**Susan G. Esserman,**

*Acting United States Trade Representative.*

#### Annex

The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTS") is modified as set forth below with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the effective specified for the enumerated actions:

1. With respect to articles both: (i) imported on or after January 1, 1976, and (ii) entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after June 30, 1998:

(a). General note 4(d) of the HTS is modified by deleting the following subheadings and the country set out opposite them: 0707.020 Honduras; 0707.00 Honduras; 0807.11.30 Honduras.

(b). For the following subheadings, the Rates of Duty 1—Special subcolumn is modified by deleting the symbol "A\*" and inserting an "A" in lieu thereof: 0707.20; 0707.00; 0807.11.30.

2. With respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after June 30, 1998.

(a). General note 7(d) of the HTS is modified by:

(i). in subdivision (ii) deleting "of the CBERA;" and inserting "of the CBERA; or" in lieu thereof;

(ii) in subdivision (iii) deleting "provided for in this note; or" and

inserting "provided for in this note." in lieu thereof; and

(iii). deleting subdivision (iv).

(b). For the following subheadings, the Rates of Duty 1—Special subcolumn is modified by deleting the symbol "E\*" and inserting an "E" in lieu thereof: 0707.00.20; 0707.00.40; 0807.11.30; 2402.10.60.

3. With respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the April 20, 1998, general note 7 to the HTS is modified by deleting subdivision 7(g) and inserting the following new subdivision 7(g) in lieu thereof:

"(g) The duty-free treatment provided under the CBERA shall not apply to any agricultural product of chapters 2 through 52, inclusive, that is subject to a tariff-rate quota, if entered in a quantity in excess of the in-quota quantity for such produce."

[FR Doc. 98-17485 Filed 6-26-98; 12:56 pm]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. OST-96-1437]

### Privacy Act of; Notice to Amend Systems of Records

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** Proposed amendments to numerous Privacy Act systems of records.

**SUMMARY:** As part of the biennial review of systems of records required by the Privacy Act, DOT discovered outdated room numbers for some records system notices and the failure to identify a second repository of records in one system. This notice proposes to make the appropriate changes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 10, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested individuals may comment on this publication by writing to Robert I. Ross, C-10, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; telephone: 202-366-9156; fax: 202-366-9170; e-mail: bob.ross@ost.dot.gov.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Inquiries or comments concerning this proposed altered system should be directed to Robert I. Ross, Office of the General Counsel, C-10, US Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; telephone: 202-366-9156; fax: 202-366-9170; e-mail: bob.ross@ost.dot.gov. If no comments are received, the proposed change will become effective on the above-

mentioned date. If comments are received, the comments will be considered and where adopted, the document will be republished with the change.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DOT systems of records notices subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the above mentioned address. The specific change to each record system being amended is highlighted in italics below in the notice, as amended, which is being published in its entirety. None of the proposed amendments is within the purview of subsection (r) of the Privacy Act, as amended, which requires the submission of a new or altered systems report.

#### DOT/OST 003

#### SYSTEM NAME:

Allegations of Infringement of United States Patents.

#### SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified

#### SYSTEM LOCATION:

Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington, DC, 20590.

#### CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Individuals who believe that an agency of the Department of Transportation is infringing a United States patent owned by the individual.

#### CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Copies of correspondence alleging that agencies of the Department of Transportation have infringed, or are infringing, United States patents owned by the originator of the correspondence. Copies of replies by the Department Patent Counsel to the originator of the allegation. Copies of correspondence forwarding the allegation to the particular Department agency accused for their comment; their replies to Patent Counsel. Copies of correspondence between the Department of Transportation and the Department of Justice concerning the allegations.

#### AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

49 CFR 1.57

#### PURPOSE(S):

The purpose of the system is to document allegations that agencies of the Department of Transportation have infringed, or are infringing, United States patents.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used as a record of allegations and Patent Counsel's actions thereon.

**SEE PREFATORY STATEMENT OF GENERAL ROUTINE USES.**

Policies and practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining, and disposing of records in the system:

**STORAGE:**

File folders stored in file cabinets.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in alphabetical sequence.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are disclosed only to individuals with established legal interest or legal "need to know."

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Transfer to Federal Records Center two years after close of file; destroy 25 years after close of file.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mailing address: Patent Counsel, C-15, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.

Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Patent owners.

**EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:**

None.

**DOT/OST 004**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Board for Correction of Military Records (BCMR).

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 4100, Washington, DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Military personnel requesting the Board for Correction of Military Records to correct their military records.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Copies of actions of the General Counsel acting under delegated

authority approving or disapproving BCMR cases.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used as a record of the General Counsel's action in individual BCMR cases.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

File folders stored in file cabinets (Conserv-a-File).

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in alphabetical sequence.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Files are kept in the office of the Assistant General Counsel. Requests are referred to the Executive Secretary, BCMR.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

*Retained indefinitely for precedential purposes.*

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Assistant General Counsel for Environmental, Civil Rights and General Law, C-10, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.  
Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Contact System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Contact System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Same as "Record Access Procedure."

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Official agency records; hearings, documentary material from outside the agency.

**DOT/OST 006**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Confidential Statement of Employment and Financial Interests.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Employees of the Department of Transportation in supervisory or other

positions where a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest might occur. Also included in this category are Consultants and Experts of the Department of Transportation.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Information on employment and financial interests and debts.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

The information to be furnished is required by Executive Order 11222 and the regulations of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued thereunder and may not be disclosed except as the OPM or the agency head may determine. The purpose of the use of this information is to avoid a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest in DOT employees.

Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses 1, 4 and 6 apply.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

Accordion-type file folder.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in alphabetical sequence.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are stored in safe.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Records are kept 6 years and then destroyed.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Deputy General Counsel, C-2, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.  
Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10428.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Inquiries may be addressed to the Deputy General Counsel either in person or in writing. If written the individual must provide a notarized signature.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Access to records requires the individual to contact in person or write the Deputy General Counsel.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Contest of a record is also through the Deputy General Counsel.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Statements of employment and financial interests, creditors, interests in real property are submitted by employees and consultants of the

Department of Transportation. Initial requests for submission of statements are through the Office of Personnel and Training.

**DOT/OST 012****SYSTEM NAME:**

Files Relating to Personnel Hearings.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington, DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Certain employees of the Office of the Secretary who have availed themselves of the opportunity for a hearing in certain personnel matters.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

A record of the legal services performed and reference material for future cases.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used by agency management in the preparation and conduct of administrative hearings.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:****STORAGE:**

File folders stored in file cabinets (Conserv-a-File).

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in alphabetical sequence.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Files are kept in the office of the Assistant General Counsel.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Retire in 3 years; destroy in 6 years.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Assistant General Counsel for Environmental, Civil Rights and General Law, C-10, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.  
Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Same as "Record Access Procedure."

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Official agency records; hearings; documentary material from outside the agency.

**DOT/OST 019****SYSTEM NAME:**

Individual Personal Interests in Intellectual Property.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington, DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Inventors employed by or having contractual relationships with the Department of Transportation and other Government agencies.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Invention disclosures, Government Patents Branch cases, patent applications, issued patents, and license agreement files.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used by Patent Counsel and his staff as a record of determination of rights in inventions, determination of novelty and patentability, determination of patent coverage, and allocation of rights in issued patents.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:****STORAGE:**

File folders stored in file cabinets.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in alphabetical sequence.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are disclosed only to individuals who have legal interest in the records or legal "need to know."

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Transfer to Federal Records Center two years after close of file; destroy 25 years after close of file.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Patent Counsel, C-15, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590  
Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Same as "Record Access Procedures"

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Individual inventors, technical evaluators, and United States Patent and Trademark Office.

DOT/OST 037

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Records of Confirmation Proceeding Requirements for Proposed Executive Appointments to the Department of Transportation.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Environmental, Civil Rights and General Law, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington, DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Individuals nominated for top executive positions of the Department of Transportation.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Financial data and biographical data.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Data submitted to the General Counsel as reviewing official by subject individual for use by the Senate Commerce Committee to determine if there would be a conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest, in subject's appointment to the Department of Transportation.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:****STORAGE:**

Legal sized documents located in locked safe.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Individual names filed alphabetically.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Physical security consists of filing records in safe; data released to Senate Commerce Committee and authorized officials only of the Department.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Records are retained for 6 years then destroyed.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Deputy General Counsel, C-2, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.

Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10428.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Inquiries may be addressed to the Deputy General Counsel at the address above, either in person or in writing. If written the individual must provide a notarized signature.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Access to records requires the individual to contact in person or write the Deputy General Counsel.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Contest of a record is also through the Deputy General Counsel.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Documents are provided by subject individual.

**DOT/OST 045**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Unsolicited Contract or Research and Development Proposals Embodying Claims of Proprietary Rights.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington, DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Individuals who believe they have original and innovative ideas in the field of transportation.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Copies of descriptions of proposed innovations or inventions and methods of carrying out the proposal. Evaluations by Patent Counsel of the adequacy and propriety of restrictive markings on the proposals and correspondence of the Patent Counsel pertaining thereto.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used as a record of Patent Counsel's action in individual unsolicited proposal cases.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

File folders stored in file cabinets (Conserv-a-File).

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name and subject in alphabetical sequence.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are disclosed only in accordance with the terms of restrictive markings agreed upon between submitter and DOT.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Transfer to storage when three years old; Destroy after six years.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Patent Counsel, C-15, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.

Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Same as "Record Access Procedure."

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Forwarded by individual or by the DOT office to whom unsolicited proposal was addressed.

**DOT/OST 056**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Garnishment Files.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

(1) Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Environmental, Civil Rights and General Law, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102, Washington, DC 20590.

(2) *Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Southern Region, Financial Services Division, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, GA 30337 (mailing address: Box 20636, Atlanta, GA 30320).*

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Employees of the Department of Transportation, including members of the Coast Guard, whose pay is sought to be attached under section 459 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 659.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Correspondence and court orders, and copies thereof, concerning attachment of employees' pay.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used as record of garnishments and Garnishment Attorney's action thereon.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

File folders stored in the Garnishment Attorney's office.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in alphabetical order.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are disclosed only to individuals with established legal interest or legal "need to know."

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Retained for as long as the attachment of pay continues and thereafter as needed for precedential value.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Garnishment Attorney, C-10, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.

Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 10102.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Data are obtained from state courts and agencies, private attorneys, present and former spouses of employees, and federal pay records.

**DOT/OST 059**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Files of the Board for Correction of Military Records (BCMR) for the Coast Guard.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Secretary (OST), Office of the General Counsel, Board for Correction of Military Records, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 4100, Washington, DC 20590.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Individuals who have filed applications for relief before the Board.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Applications and related documents, Board decisions, and official military records of applicants.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Used by the Chairman, the Board, the Executive Secretary and Staff in

determining whether to grant relief to applicants.

Used by the Coast Guard in presenting its views to the Board concerning pending cases. Also used by applicant and his representative.

Used by the General Counsel and his staff in determining whether to approve decisions of the board.

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

File folders stored in file cabinets.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Indexed individually by name in one of two alphabetical sequences representing pending and closed cases. Also indexed by docket number. Pending cases filed by docket number; closed cases filed alphabetically.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are disclosed only to the applicant, his representative, interested members of Congress, and the Coast Guard.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Transfer of official military record of individual separated from service to Federal Records Center when case closed; transfer of official military record of Active or Reserve member to Coast Guard Headquarters when case closed; retention of application file in all cases.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mail Address: Executive Secretary, Board for the Correction of Military Records, C-60, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590.

Office Location: 400 7th Street, SW., Room 4100.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Apply to System Manager.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Apply to System Manager.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Same as "Record Access Procedure."

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

U.S. Coast Guard, Veterans Administration, individual applicants.

Dated: June 22, 1998.

**Nancy E. McFadden,**  
General Counsel, Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 98-17229 Filed 6-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**Proposed Advisory Circular 25-XX, Certification of Transport Airplane Structure**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of Proposed Advisory Circular (AC) 25-XX and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of and requests comments on a proposed advisory circular (AC) which provides methods acceptable to the Administrator for showing compliance with the provisions of subparts C and D of 14 CFR part 25 regarding the type certification requirements for transport airplane structure. This notice is necessary to give all interested persons an opportunity to present their views on the proposed AC.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before October 28, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Send all comments on proposed AC to: Federal Aviation Administration, Attention: Jim Haynes, Airframe/Airworthiness Branch, ANM-115, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, WA 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at the above address between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Katherine Burks, Transport Standards Staff, at the address above, telephone (206) 227-2114.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Comments Invited**

A copy of the draft AC may be obtained by contacting the person named above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed AC by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Commenters should identify AC 25-XX, and submit comments, in duplicate, to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments will be considered by the Transport Standards Staff before issuing the final AC.

**Discussion**

This AC contains guidance for the latest amendment of the regulations and applies to all transport category airplanes for which a new, amended, or supplemental type certificate is

required. This guidance should be applied to any portion of the airplane structure that has been modified. In the past, advisory and guidance information applicable to transport airplane structure has been formally published as ACs. Advisory circulars have not been developed for all of the regulatory requirements applicable to transport airplane structure, however. In many instances, certification of new technology airplanes resulted in the need to interpret the existing regulations and to apply new regulations. Issue papers and special conditions were generated to document the compliance method agreed upon between the applicant and the FAA. In other instances, applicants, FAA Aircraft Certification Office (ACO) managers, and foreign regulatory authorities have requested interpretation of the intent of specific regulations. This guidance was documented in the form of policy memorandums that were distributed to all ACOs, letters to applicants and foreign airworthiness authorities, and issue papers. In many instances, this information was not organized in a manner that allowed easy access, and applicants were not aware of revised policy. This AC formalizes existing policy so that the public and FAA personnel have access to this information. The methods and procedures described in this AC have evolved after many years and represents current certification practice. Issued in Renton, Washington, on June 22, 1998.

**Darrell M. Pederson,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, ANM-100.*

[FR Doc. 98-17365 Filed 6-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**Fire and Cabin Safety Research; Notice of Public Conference**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Conference.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces an International Public Conference on Fire and Cabin Safety Research, which is being held by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a follow-up to a similar conference in November of 1995, and to discuss the current state of cabin and fire safety research. The Cabin Safety Research Program (CSRP) and the conference are being jointly sponsored by the Joint Aviation Authorities (JAA)