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Janice L. Peters,

Designated Official.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on April 30, 1999 (64 FR 23385).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 6, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS-21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Mail Stop 17, Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6292) or Dian Deal, Office of Information Technology and Productivity Improvement, RAD-20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Mail Stop 35, Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6133). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Pub. L. No. 104-13, § 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 C.F.R. Part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 C.F.R. 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.12. On April 30, 1999, FRA published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting comment on ICRs that the agency was seeking OMB approval. 64 FR 23385. FRA received no comments after issuing this

notice. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been reevaluated and certified under 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12(c).

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30 day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507 (b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30 day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); see also 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The revised requirements are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

Title: Supplemental Qualifications Statement for Railroad Safety Inspector Applicants.

OMB Control Number: 2130-0517.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Form(s): FRA-F-120.

Abstract: The Supplemental Qualifications Statement for Railroad Safety Inspector Applicants is an information collection instrument used by FRA to gather additional background data so that FRA can evaluate the qualifications of applicants for the position of Railroad Safety Inspector. The questions cover a wide range of general and specialized skills, abilities, and knowledge of the five types of railroad safety inspector positions.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 6,000 hours.

Addressee: Send comments regarding this information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC, 20503, Attention: FRA Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on the following: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have

practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520.

Marie S. Savoy,

Director, Office of Information Technology and Support Systems, Federal Railroad Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-17231 Filed 7-6-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-1999-5920]

Information Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Maritime Administration's (MARAD's) intentions to request extension of approval for three years of a currently approved information collection.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before September 7, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Crawford Ellerbe, Office of Maritime Labor, Training and Safety, Maritime Administration, MAR-250, Room 7302, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Telephone 202-366-5755 or FAX 202-493-2288. Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Application for Admission.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved information collection.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0010

Form Number: KP 2-65.

Expiration Date of Approval: 12-31-2000

Summary of Collection of Information: The collection consists of Parts I, II, and III of Form KP 2-65 (U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Application

for Admission). These items are completed by individuals wishing to be admitted as students to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and are reviewed by staff members of the Academy.

Need and Use of the Information: The collected information is necessary to select the best qualified candidates for the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Description of Respondents: Individuals desiring to become students at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Annual Responses: 2500

Annual Burden: 5 hours

Comments: Comments should refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document. Written comments maybe submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Comments may also be submitted by electronic means via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit>. Specifically, address whether this information collection is necessary for proper performance of the function of the agency and will have practical utility, accuracy, of the burden estimates, ways to minimize this burden, and ways to enhance quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Dated: July 1, 1999.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-17200 Filed 7-6-99; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-99-5914]

Decision That Nonconforming 1991-1998 Honda VT600 Motorcycles Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.
ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces the decision by NHTSA that 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles not originally manufactured to comply with

all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to vehicles originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the U.S. certified version of the 1991-1998 Honda VT600), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: This decision is effective July 7, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

Champagne Imports, Inc. of Lansdale, Pennsylvania ("Champagne") (Registered Importer 90-009) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition under Docket No. NHTSA-98-4864 on Wednesday, December 16, 1998 (63 FR 69357) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition.

One comment was received in response to the notice of the petition, from American Honda Motor Co., Inc. ("Honda"), the United States representative of the vehicles' manufacturer. In this comment, Honda stated that the headlights on non-U.S. certified 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles do not conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108, *Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment*, because they have an asymmetrical beam for right hand traffic. Honda also stated that vehicle identification numbers assigned to non-U.S. certified 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles contain only eleven digits, and therefore do not conform to the requirements of 49 CFR part 565.

NHTSA accorded Champagne an opportunity to respond to Honda's comment. In its response, Champagne stated that it will modify the headlights on non-U.S. certified 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles to comply with Standard No. 108. Additionally, Champagne stated that it will address the vehicle identification number issue raised by Honda by utilizing the eleven digit VIN assigned by the original manufacturer of the vehicles as a substitute for the U.S. VIN, as permitted by 49 CFR 565.5(a).

NHTSA believes that Champagne's response adequately addresses the issues that Honda has raised regarding the petition. NHTSA further notes that Honda has not contended that non-U.S. certified 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles are incapable of being readily altered to comply with applicable motor vehicle safety standards, and that the modifications described by Champagne, which have been performed with relative ease on thousands of motor vehicles imported over the years, would not preclude non-U.S. certified 1991-1998 Honda VT600 motorcycles from being found capable of being so altered.

NHTSA has accordingly decided to grant the petition.

Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-294 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this notice of final decision.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that non-U.S. certified 1991-1998 Honda