

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Pub. L. 106-554) directs the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to issue government-wide guidelines for Federal agencies to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies. In response, OMB issued government-wide guidelines on February 22, 2002 (67 FR 8452), as revised on March 4, 2002 (67 FR 9797), that require Federal agencies that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) to develop and publish their own information quality guidelines along with administrative mechanisms to allow persons to request correction of information.

As directed by OMB (67 FR 8452), SSA prepared section 515 draft information quality guidelines and related material and made them available to the public for comment on April 29, 2002 (67 FR 21009). In response to comments, SSA has revised its section 515 information quality guidelines and mechanisms for seeking correction of information. The revised material has been approved by OMB as meeting the requirements established in the OMB government-wide guidelines.

The SSA information quality guidelines and related information are on the agency's Web site at <http://www.ssa.gov/515>. The comments that SSA received on the earlier draft guidelines along with those draft section 515 guidelines and related material are available at <http://policy.ssa.gov/redir2.nsf/closed?OpenPage>.

The SSA received comments from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and from two organizations that are concerned with regulatory affairs. All three comment packages were generic in that they cut across all agencies and provided general guidance and direction. We considered all comments received and discuss the most significant ones below.

One issue addressed in all comment packages concerned the scope of applicability for these guidelines. One organization expressed concern that the scope of agency guidelines was too narrow, and another organization expressed concern that the scope of agency guidelines was too broad. We reviewed the SSA guidelines to ensure that they are consistent with the intent and scope of the statute, with the OMB government-wide information quality guidelines, and the guidance provided by OMB. In response to an OMB comment, we added a statement noting that SSA's section 515 information

quality guidelines conform to the guidance, scope of applicability, and intent of the government-wide quality guidelines issued by the OMB. We also added a statement noting that section 515 guidelines apply to information disseminated on or after October 1, 2002.

One comment suggested that each agency's information quality guidelines state that agency submissions for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act will include the statement that data to be collected shall conform to section 515 information quality guidelines when appropriate. We added a statement to the SSA guidelines to that effect. In response to another comment, we added a statement establishing criteria for reproducibility of information collected in SSA statistical surveys.

Several comments focused on our procedures to seek correction of information under section 515. In response to one comment, we added a statement noting that these procedures do not replace other established processes for challenges to disseminated information. In response to another comment, we will request that persons seeking correction of information under section 515 indicate how they are affected by the allegedly erroneous information. We also provided more details about the appeals process and set time limits for SSA to respond to initial requests and appeals.

Dated: September 23, 2002.

Paul N. Van de Water,

Acting Deputy Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 02-24809 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4143]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Office of the Executive Director, Program Review Staff; 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Form DS-2038, Application for Certificate of International Educational Character; OMB Control Number 1405-0122

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. This process is conducted in accordance

with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal to be submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs ECA-IIP/EX/PR.

Title of Information Collection: Application for Certificate of International Educational Character.

Frequency: Occasionally.

Form Number: DS-2038.

Respondents: Members of the public who seek a certificate for audio-visual material.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8.

Average Hours Per Response: .4.

Total Estimated Burden: 24 hours.

- Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency.

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Public comments, or requests for additional information, regarding the collection listed in this notice should be directed to Leslie M. Nolan, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, 301 4th Street, SW., room 534, Washington, DC 20547, who may be reached on 202-205-9076.

Dated: July 9, 2002.

James D. Whitten,

Executive Director, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 02-24807 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Aviation Proceedings, Agreements Filed During the Week Ending September 20, 2002

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within

21 days after the filing of the application.

Docket Number: OST-2002-13424.

Date Filed: September 20, 2002.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject: PTC23 EUR-SASC 0096 dated 13 September 2002, Europe-South Asian Subcontinent Expedited Resolutions r1-r6. PTC23 EUR-SASC 0097 dated 13 September 2002, Europe-South Asian Subcontinent Expedited Resolution 002bb r-7. Intended effective date: November 1, 2002/January 1, 2003.

Dorothy Y. Beard,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 02-24889 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (Formerly Subpart Q) During the Week Ending September 20, 2002

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (*See* 14 CFR 301.201 *et. seq.*). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: OST-1997-3020.

Date Filed: September 16, 2002.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: October 7, 2002.

Description: Application of United Air Lines, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 41102, 41108, 14 CFR part 302 and subpart B, requesting renewal and amendment of its experimental certificate of public convenience and necessity for Route 246 (U.S.-People's Republic of China).

Docket Number: OST-2002-13406.

Date Filed: September 19, 2002.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: October 10, 2002.

Description: Application of ExecuJet Charter AG, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 41302 and subpart B, requesting a foreign air

carrier permit authorizing charter air transportation of persons, property, and mail between a point or points in Switzerland, on the one hand, and a point or points in the United States, on the other hand, either directly or via intermediate points in other countries, with or without stopovers and beyond.

Dorothy Y. Beard,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 02-24888 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Report Implementing OMB's Information Dissemination Quality Guidelines

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DOT.

ACTION: Final guidelines.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is issuing guidelines to implement section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for FY 2001 (Pub. L. 106-554). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued Government-wide guidelines under Section 515 which direct each Federal agency to establish and implement written procedures to ensure and maximize the quality, utility, objectivity and integrity of the information that they disseminate.

DATES: Effective Date: October 1, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vanester M. Williams, Office of the Chief Information Officer, OST, Department of Transportation; 202-366-1771 (not a toll-free call) or by email at vanester.williams@ost.dot.gov. For specific inquiries on the Department's administrative mechanisms for allowing persons to seek correction of information, please contact Robert Ashby, Office of the General Counsel, OST, Department of Transportation; 202-366-9310 (not a toll-free call) or by e-mail at bob.ashby@ost.dot.gov. For specific inquiries on the Department's statistical guidelines, please contact Dr. Patrick Flanagan, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Transportation; 202-366-4168 (not a toll-free call) or by email at pat.flanagan@bts.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department's information quality guidelines apply to a wide variety of its information dissemination activities in order to meet basic information quality standards set forth by Section 515. These guidelines provide a framework

under which the Department will allow affected persons an opportunity to seek and obtain correction of information maintained and disseminated by the Department that does not comply with these guidelines.

The written procedures established within DOT's guidelines apply to all organizational components of the Department. For DOT organizations that require additional guidelines, these organizations will implement corresponding procedures that meet the terms of these Departmental guidelines. For the purposes of these guidelines, the term "DOT organizations" refer to:

Office of the Secretary (OST)
Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)
Office of the Inspector General (OIG)
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Maritime Administration (MARAD)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA)
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC)
Transportation Administrative Service Center (TASC)
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
United States Coast Guard (USCG)

Public Comments and DOT's Responses

In response to its May 1, 2002 posting of draft guidelines, the Department received seven substantive comments from members of the public. Responses to these comments are included in the Department's final guidelines.

Availability of Final Guidelines

As provided in OMB's guidelines implementing Section 515, the Department is publishing this notice of availability of its final quality guidelines in the **Federal Register**. The final guidelines themselves will be posted on the Department's Dockets Management System (DMS) Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov> as of October 1, 2002 (OST-2002-11996). The Office of Dockets and Media Management is open for examination and copying, at the following address, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays: Department of Transportation, TASC, Office of Dockets and Media Management, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001; phone number (202) 366-9329; fax number (202) 493-2251.