Paperwork Reduction Act

CBP requires aliens subject to this notice to provide biometric and biographic data at the Otay Mesa port-of-entry in the circumstances described above. This requirement is considered an information collection requirement under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, has previously approved this information collection for use. The OMB control number for this collection is 1651–0138.

Dated: November 9, 2015.

R. Gil Kerlikowske,
Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 2015–28843 Filed 11–12–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection [1651–0108]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Canadian Border Boat Landing Permit


ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments; extension of an existing collection of information.

SUMMARY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act: Canadian Border Boat Landing Permit (CBP Form I–68). This is a proposed extension of an information collection that was previously approved. CBP is proposing that this information collection be extended with no change to the burden hours or to the information collected. This document is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 14, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the OMB Desk Officer for Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, and sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395–5806.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Tracey Denning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade, 90 K Street NE., 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229–1177, at 202–325–0265.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register (80 FR 25313) on May 4, 2015, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10. CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3507). The comments should address: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimates of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden, including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology; and (e) the annual costs to respondents or record keepers from the collection of information (total capital/startup costs and operations and maintenance costs). The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the CBP request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this document, CBP is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

Title: Canadian Border Boat Landing Permit.

OMB Number: 1651–0108.

Form Number: CBP Form I–68.

Abstract: The Canadian Border Boat Landing Permit (CBP Form I–68) allows participants entering the United States along the northern border by small pleasure boats weighing less than 5 tons to telephonically report their arrival without having to appear in person for an inspection by a CBP officer. United States citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents of the United States, Canadian citizens, and Landed Residents of Canada who are nationals of the Visa Waiver Program countries listed in 8 CFR 217.2(a) are eligible to participate.

The information collected on CBP Form I–68 allows people who enter the United States from Canada by small pleasure boats to be inspected only once during the boating season, rather than each time they make an entry. This information collection is provided for by 8 CFR 235.1(g) and Section 235 of Immigration and Nationality Act. CBP Form I–68 is accessible at http://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/publications/forms?title=68&=Apply.

Current Actions: This submission is being made to extend the expiration date with no change to the burden hours or to the information collected.

Type of Review: Extension (without change).

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 68,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,128.

Estimated Annual Cost: $1,088,000.

Dated: November 9, 2015.

Tracey Denning,
Agency Clearance Officer, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. 2015–28831 Filed 11–12–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning Acyclovir Tablets


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 certain Acyclovir tablets. Based upon the facts presented, CBP has concluded that the country of origin of the Acyclovir Tablets is China and India for purposes of U.S. Government procurement.

DATES: The final determination was issued on November 5, 2015. 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 no later than December 14, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Dinerstein, Valuation and Operations Branch, Regulations
and Rulings, Office of International Trade (202) 325–0132.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that on November 5, 2015, pursuant to subpart B of Part 177, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Regulations (19 CFR part 177, subpart B), CBP issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of certain Acyclovir Tablets, which may be offered to the U.S. Government under an undesignated government procurement contract. This final determination, HQ267177, was issued under 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 that the processing in the United States does not result in a substantial transformation. Therefore, the country of origin of the Acyclovir tablets is China and India for purposes of U.S. Government procurement.

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 177.30, may seek judicial review of a final determination within 60 days after publication of such determination in the Federal Register.

Dated: November 5, 2015.

Myles B. Harmon,
Acting Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade.

HQ H267177
November 5, 2015

MAR–2 OT:RR-CTF:VS H267177 RSD
CATEGORY: ORIGIN
Ms. Karen Yu, Regulatory Affairs,
Carlsbad Technology Inc., 5923 Balfour Court, Carlsbad, California 92008
RE: U.S. Government procurement; Trade Agreements Act; Country of Origin of Acyclovir Tablets; Substantial Transformation

Dear Ms. Yu: This is in response to your ruling request dated July 7, 2015, requesting a final determination on behalf of Carlsbad Technology Inc., (Carlsbad) pursuant to subpart B of Part 177 of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Regulations (19 CFR part 177). Under these regulations, which implement Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (“TAA”), as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511 et seq.), CBP issues country of origin advisory rulings and final determinations as to whether an article is or would be a product of a designated country or instrumentality for the purposes of granting waivers of certain “Buy American” restrictions in U.S. law or practice for products offered for sale to the U.S. Government.

This final determination concerns the country of origin of Acyclovir Tablets. As a U.S. manufacturer of a like product, Carlsbad Inc. is a party-at-interest under the rule of origin set forth in 19 CFR 177.22(d)(1), and is entitled to request this final determination.

FACTS:

Acyclovir is a pharmaceutical product used as a synthetic nucleoside analogue active against herpes viruses. The active pharmaceutical ingredient (“API”), Acyclovir is manufactured in China and India. The API is shipped to the U.S., where it undergoes five manufacturing steps. Inactive ingredient (excipients) used in the production of the product in the U.S. are corn starch, microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, and sodium starch glycolate.

The first stage of U.S. manufacturing is the sizing of the active and inactive ingredients including the corn starch glycolate, by passing them through a sieve to remove any larger granules. The second stage of U.S. manufacturing is the preparation of Acyclovir granules. The Acyclovir API, corn starch, and sodium starch glycolate are de-lumped and granulated with a binding suspension of corn starch. The wet granules are then sieved through a comil and discharged into stainless steel drums. These granules are then moved to a tray dryer for a drying process for 10 to 18 hours or until it meets its dryness specification. The dried granules will then be sieved through a comil again and discharged into stainless steel drums. The third stage of U.S. manufacturing is the preparation of the tablet blend. The inactive ingredients, microcrystalline cellulose and sodium starch glycolated are de-lumped by passing them through a sieve and added to the de-lumped acyclovir granules for preblend. Then the magnesium stearate is sieved and added to the final blend. All the blended product is discharged into stainless steel drums. The fourth stage of U.S. manufacturing is tablet compression. The blended granules are then fed to a tablet press machine where the tablets are formed. The bulk tablets are collected into plastic bags, which are sealed and packaged in containers. The fifth stage of U.S. manufacturing is packaging in high density polyethylene plastic bottles. These bottles are then put into cartons for distribution in the U.S.

ISSUE: What is the country of origin of the Acyclovir tablets processed as described above for purposes U.S. Government procurement?

LAW AND ANALYSIS:
Pursuant to Subpart B of Part 177, 19 CFR 177.21 et seq., which implements Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511 et seq.), CBP issues country of origin advisory rulings and final determinations as to whether an article is or would be a product of a designated country or instrumentality for the purposes of granting waivers if certain “Buy American” restrictions in U.S. law or practice for products offered for sale to the U.S. government.

Under the rule of origin set forth under 19 U.S.C. 2518(4)(B): An article is a product of a country or instrumentality only if (i) it is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of that country or instrumentality, or (ii) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, it has been substantially transformed into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed. See also 19 CFR 177.22(a).

In rendering advisory rulings and final determinations for purposes of U.S. government procurement, CBP applies the provisions of subpart B of part 177 consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulations. See 19 CFR 177.21. In this regard, CBP recognizes that the Federal Acquisition Regulations restrict the U.S. Government’s purchase of products to U.S.-made or designated country end products for acquisitions subject to the TAA. See 48 CFR 25.403(c)(1). The Federal Acquisition Regulations define “U.S.-made end product” as: . . . an article that is mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States or that is substantially transformed in the United States into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed. 48 CFR 25.003

A substantial transformation occurs when an article emerges from a process with a new name, character and use different from that possessed by the article prior to processing. A substantial transformation will not result from a minor manufacturing or combining process that leaves the identity of the article intact. See United States v.

In determining whether a substantial transformation occurs in the manufacture of chemical products such as pharmaceuticals, CBP has consistently examined the complexity of the processing and whether the final article retains the essential identity and character of the raw material. To that end, CBP has generally held that the processing of pharmaceutical products from bulk form into measured doses does not result in a substantial transformation of the product. See e.g., Headquarters Ruling Letter (“HQ”) 561975, dated April 3, 2002; HQ 561544, dated May 1, 2000; and, HQ 735146, dated November 15, 1993.

For instance, in HQ 561975, the anesthetic drug sevoflurane imported into the U.S. in bulk form and processed into dosage form by extensive testing operations, followed by filtering and packaging into bottles, was found not to have undergone a substantial transformation in the U.S. There was no change in name (the product was identified as sevoflurane in both its bulk and processed form). The sevoflurane retained its chemical and physical properties after the U.S. processing. Lastly, because the imported bulk sevoflurane had a predetermined medicinal use as an inhalable anesthetic drug, the processing in the United States resulted in no change in the product’s use.

Likewise, in HQ 561544, the testing, filtering and sterile packaging of Geneticin Sulfate bulk powder, to create Geneticin Selective Antibiotic, was not found to have substantially transformed the antibiotic substance because the processing only involved the removal of impurities from the bulk chemical and the placement of the chemical into smaller packaging.

In HQ 735146, 100 percent pure acetaminophen imported from China was blended with excipients in the United States, granulated and sold to pharmaceutical companies to process into tablets for retail sale under private labels. It was found that the process in the United States did not substantially transform the imported product because the product was referred to as acetaminophen before importation and after U.S. processing, its use was for medicinal purposes and continued to be so used after U.S. processing, and the granulating process minimally affected the chemical and physical properties of the acetaminophen.

In HQ H23356 dated December 26, 2012, mefenamic acid imported from India was blended with excipients and packaged into dosage form in the United States. Based on prior rulings, we found that the specific processing consisting of blending the active ingredients with inactive ingredients in a tumbler and then encapsulating and packaging the product did not substantially transform the mefenamic acid because its chemical character remained the same. As such, we found that the country of origin of the Ponstel (mefenamic acid) capsules was India, where the mefenamic acid was manufactured.

In this case, the processing performed in the U.S. does not result in a change in the medicinal use of the finished product and the active ingredient. The Acyclovir retains its chemical and physical properties and is merely put into a dosage form and is packaged for sale. The active ingredient does not undergo a change in name, character or use. Therefore, in accordance with our prior rulings, we find that no substantial transformation occurs in U.S., and for purposes of government procurement, the Acyclovir tablets would be considered a product where the active ingredient was produced, which would be China and India.

HOLDING:

Based upon the facts in this case, we find that the imported Acyclovir is not substantially transformed in U.S. Accordingly, the country of origin for government procurement purposes of the Acyclovir tablets is China and India, where the active ingredient is produced.

Notice of this final determination will be given in the Federal Register, as required by 19 CFR 177.29. Any party-at-interest other than the party which requested this final determination may request, pursuant to 19 CFR 177.31 that CBP reexamine the matter anew and issue a new final determination. Pursuant to 19 CFR 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,
Myles B. Harmon
Acting Executive Director
Office of Regulations and Rulings
Office of International Trade

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
[1651–0124]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Cargo Container and Road Vehicle Certification for Transport Under Customs Seal


ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments; extension of an existing collection of information.

SUMMARY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act: Cargo Container and Road Vehicle Certification for Transport Under Customs Seal. This is a proposed extension of an information collection that was previously approved. CBP is proposing that this information collection be extended with no change to the burden hours or to the information collected. This document is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 14, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the OMB Desk Officer for Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, and sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395–5806.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Tracey Denning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade, 90 K Street NE., 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229–1177, at 202–325–0265.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register (80 FR 48117) on August 11, 2015, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10. CBP invites the general public and other Federal