DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA–2013–0021, Notice 3]

Correction to Decision That Nonconforming Model Year 2000 East Lancashire Coachbuilders Limited Double Decker Tri-Axle Buses (With Volvo B7L Chassis) Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Correction to previous import eligibility decision.

SUMMARY: NHTSA is correcting an error made in its decision that certain model year (MY) 2000 East Lancashire Coachbuilders Limited Double Decker Tri-Axle buses (with Volvo B7L Chassis) that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) are eligible for importation into the United States because they have safety features that comply with, or are capable of being altered to comply with, all applicable FMVSS. The correction is being made to properly identify the subject vehicles as MY 2001 models.

DATES: The original eligibility decision became effective on July 30, 2015. The correction is effective as of April 8, 2018, and applies to any vehicle that may have been previously imported under the original eligibility decision.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(B), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable FMVSS shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided its safety features comply with, or are capable of being altered to comply with, all applicable FMVSS based on destructive test data or such other evidence that NHTSA decides to be adequate.

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.

US Specs, of Havre de Grace, Maryland (“US Specs”) (Registered Importer No. RI–03–321), petitioned NHTSA to decide whether MY 2000 East Lancashire Coachbuilders Limited Double Decker Tri-Axle buses (with Volvo B7L Chassis) are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published a notice of the petition on January 26, 2015 (80 FR 4033) to afford an opportunity for public comment. No comments were received.

A decision granting the referenced petition was published on August 25, 2015 (80 FR 46645). Under the decision, certain MY 2000 East Lancashire Coachbuilders Limited Double Decker Tri-Axle buses (with Volvo B7L Chassis) were determined eligible for importation into the United States.

Import eligibility decisions are made on a make, model, and model year basis, typically in response to petitions submitted by a RI. As specified in 49 CFR 593.6(b)(1), the petitioning RI must, among other things, identify the model year and model of the vehicle for which import eligibility is sought.

In its petition, US Specs identified the subject vehicle as a MY 2000 East Lancashire Coachbuilders Limited Double Decker Tri-Axle buses, built on a Volvo B7L Chassis. At time of submission, there was no reason for NHTSA to question this identification of the vehicle.

It has since come to the agency’s attention that manufacturing operations on the subject vehicle were completed in calendar year 2001, the same year in which the bus entered service. Absent a model year designation from the manufacturer or the vehicle’s country of origin, the year in which manufacturing operations are completed on the vehicle serves as the vehicle’s model year, as that term is defined in 49 CFR 593.4.

Correction

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby corrects the decision granting import eligibility to MY 2000 East Lancashire Coachbuilders Limited Double Decker Tri-Axle buses (mounted on a Volvo B7L Chassis) to identify the subject vehicles as the MY 2001 version.

Conditions for importation of vehicles eligible under this corrected decision remain as outlined in the original decision. 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. VCP–59, the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under the original decision, remains as the eligibility number for vehicles admissible under the decision as corrected in this notice.


Claudia W. Covell,
Acting Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
[DOcket No. DOT–OST–2011–0177]

Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collections to OMB; Agency Request for Renewal of Previously Approved Information Collections: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Air Travel

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST), Department of Transportation (Department or DOT).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Department of Transportation’s (Department or DOT) intention to renew an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number for certain information collections. The collections involve requirements for carriers to provide a mechanism on their websites for passengers to provide online notification of their requests for disability accommodation services and for carriers to ensure that a disclaimer is activated when a user clicks a link on a primary website to embedded third-party software or an external website. The disclaimer must inform the user that the software/website is not within the carrier’s control and may not follow the same accessibility policies.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by June 18, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Docket No. DOT–OST–2011–0177 through one of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.
• Mail or Hand Delivery: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John C. Wood, Office of the General Counsel, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, 202–366–9342 (Voice), 202–366–7152 (Fax), or john.wood@dot.gov (Email).

Arrangements to receive this document in an alternative format may be made by contacting the above-named individual.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 2105–0571.

Title: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Air Travel.

Type of Review: Renewal of information collection...

Background: This notice covers two information collection requirements in the Department’s Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) implementing regulation, 14 CFR part 382 (part 382).

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Air Travel. Specifically, pursuant to section 382.43(d), covered carriers must provide an online mechanism for passengers to request disability accommodation services (e.g., enplaning/deplaning assistance, deaf/hard of hearing communication assistance, escort to service animal relief area, etc.) for a particular flight. Pursuant to section 382.43(e), covered carriers must also ensure that when a user activates a link on a carrier’s primary website to embedded third-party software or to an external website, a disclaimer is displayed notifying the user that the application or website may not be accessible. These requirements became effective on December 12, 2015, and December 12, 2016, respectively.

Covered carriers are U.S. and foreign air carriers that operate at least one aircraft having a designed seating capacity of more than 60 passengers and own or control a primary website that markets passenger air transportation or a tour, or four component that must be purchased with air transportation, to the general public in the United States.

While there are approximately 190 U.S. and foreign air carriers that conduct passenger-carrying service to, from, or in the United States with at least one aircraft having a designed seating capacity of more than 60 seats, not all of those carriers have a primary website that markets passenger air transportation to the general public in the U.S. The Department estimates that approximately 165 of those 190 carriers are subject to the Department’s web-accessibility requirements as they operate such aircraft and have a primary website that markets to U.S. consumers.

The title, a description of the information collection and respondents, and the periodic reporting burden are set forth below for each of the information collections:

1. Requirement to make a disability accommodation service request function available on the primary website. (14 CFR 382.43(d)).

Each covered carrier must provide a mechanism on its website for passengers to request a disability accommodation service for a future flight and provide advance notice of their request. Carriers may, but need not, require passengers to include contact information on the form in order to follow-up and request more specific information about the passengers’ accommodation needs. Carriers may also use the aggregate data from the online service requests to understand and better plan for the volume and types of service requests they receive across time periods and routes, but also are not required to do so. While the content and design of the online service request form is up to the carriers, the Department anticipates that each covered U.S. and foreign carrier that markets scheduled air transportation to the general public in the United States would incur initial costs associated with developing and reviewing a design and implementation plan for the request form, developing, coding, and integrating the form into the website, as well as testing, debugging, and connecting the form with a backend database to store the information. The final regulatory analysis (FRA) for the final rule entitled Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Air Travel: Accessibility of Websites and Automated Kiosks at U.S. Airports estimated that it will take an average of 32 labor hours per carrier to develop, implement, integrate, connect, and test the online request form. Initial costs are reduced for carriers that rely on a request form developed by another entity. There are no recordkeeping or reporting requirements. However, carriers should use the service request information to facilitate appropriate and timely assistance to their passengers.

Respondents: Certified U.S. and foreign air carriers operating to, from, and within the United States that operate at least one aircraft having a seating capacity of more than 60 passengers and own or control a primary website that markets air transportation to the general public in the U.S.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 165 U.S. and foreign carriers, of which the Department expects all to have achieved compliance with the requirement in a prior year.