

this event, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 6, 1999.

Gary E. Davis,

Acting Assistant Executive Director, for Air Carrier Operations, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: International Trade Data System Project Office, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden and in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)(A)), the Department of the Treasury invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on continuation of this information collection. Specifically, the International Trade Data System (ITDS) Project Office within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the migration of the ITDS, using the lessons learned in the North American Trade Automation Prototype (NATAP), to an operational pilot.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 13, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to The Department of the Treasury, International Trade Data Systems Project Office, Attn: William Nolle, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20229, Telephone (202) 216-2760.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the instructions should be directed to The Department of the Treasury, International Trade Data Systems Project Office, Attn.: William Nolle, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20229, Telephone (202) 216-2760. Information concerning the ITDS can also be obtained at the following Web Site: <http://www.itds.treas.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: The International Trade Data System (formerly North American Trade Automation Prototype).

OMB Number: 1505-0162.

Abstract: After extensive consultation with the trade community in Canada,

Mexico, and the United States, the NAFTA Information Exchange and Automation Working Group developed the North American Trade Automation Prototype (NATAP). Mandated by Article 512 of the NAFTA, NATAP was developed by the three countries to experiment with standardized data, advanced automation technologies, communications, and encryption designed to reduce costs and improve trade among the three NAFTA countries. The NATAP also served as a proof of concept for many attributes for the International Trade Data System (ITDS) as defined in the National Performance Review (NPR) under initiative "IT 06" and as noted in the "Access America" NPR report "A09" in which the Vice President designated NATAP to validate the International Trade Data System concept. In addition, NATAP incorporated encryption and privacy as noted in NPR initiative "IT10."

First, the ITDS, which will be totally electronic and incorporate elements of electronic commerce into government business, seeks OMB approval for the project to move forward from the prototype environment through a pilot collection phase, under OMB Control Number 1505-0162, to:

- "Minimize the cost to the Federal Government of the creation, collection, maintenance, use, dissemination, and disposition of international trade information." (35 U.S.C. 3501(1), (2), and (5));
- "Ensure the integrity, quality, and utility of the Federal statistical system relating to international trade." (35 U.S.C. 3501(9));
- "Ensure information technology is acquired, used, and managed to improve performance of agency missions, including the reduction of information collection burdens on the public." (35 U.S.C. 3501(10));
- "Maximize practical utility, and eliminate unnecessary duplication of existing collections." (Vice President Gore Implementation Memorandum, September 15, 1995);
- "Minimize Federal paperwork burden on respondents and the cost of the collection to multiple agencies." (Vice President Gore Implementation Memorandum, September 15, 1995);
- "Ensure the greatest possible public benefit from and maximize the utility of information created, collected, maintained, used, shared and disseminated by or for the Federal Government as contained in the National Performance Review study IT-06." (Also cited in Access America, Reengineering Through Information Technology, the National Performance

Review, 3 February 1997, Government Printing Office.); and

- Simplify the international trade process, especially to open international export trade to those small-to-medium size U.S. companies who are not trading internationally because they are intimidated by the complex and confusing trade process that currently exists.

Second, as each collection agreement is established between a Federal agency/branch and the ITDS, it is proposed that authority will be requested from OMB in accordance with the PRA as follows: 1) unless exempted, all agency collections of information are subject to OMB review and approval regardless of the collection media or collection technique (44 U.S.C. 3502(3); 5 CFR 1320.3(c)(1); 60 **Federal Register** 44978-79 (August 29, 1995); 2) if two or more agencies are obtaining the same information from the same respondents, the agencies should agree among themselves which agency will act as the collecting agent for all of them; and 3) OMB may designate one of the agencies to be the collecting agency (44 U.S.C. 3509 and 3510). In that regard, the ITDS is the result of multi-agency cooperation under the auspices of the National Performance Review and is designed as a system that works across all functional areas regarding international trade data collection, processing, use, and storage.

Eliminate Unnecessary Redundant Data Collection—The ITDS project represents a significant stride to develop a system for all of the Federal agencies that collect, process, use, disseminate information on international trade, and it eliminates unnecessary duplication of data collections from the public. For example, analyses conducted by the ITDS office and matched against OMB records indicate that for public data collection approved by the OMB for international trade information, nearly 90% of the data provided to Federal trade agencies are redundant.

If the pilot proves successful and is approved for implementation, as agencies are linked into the ITDS, the Federal government will be better able to meet the Paperwork Reduction Act objective to eliminate "unnecessary duplication" meaning that information similar to or corresponding to information that could serve the agency's purpose and need is already accessible to the agency.

Data standardization and elimination of hundreds of forms for data collections currently approved by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget is central to information exchange in the ITDS and provides better government to

the American people and trade community. Data standardization within the ITDS will bring down barriers between information systems and reduce data collection costs.

Pilot Strategy—The strategy for the ITDS pilot is based on phased development and inter-agency involvement in identifying resource needs, identified to the inter-agency Board of Directors. The ITDS will test each information collection through a pilot program (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(1)(A)(v); 5 CFR 1320.8(a)(6)). The ITDS office through Memoranda of Understandings will establish pilot collections.

Reduced Burden—A goal of the ITDS is to reduce unnecessary paperwork burden on the American business community. As the ITDS evolves from pilot to implementation, burden on U.S. businesses will be greatly reduced; both because of the removal of unnecessary duplication but also because the ITDS will to the extent possible utilize information that businesses use in the course of their activities.

Data Security—In the process of assuring protection for confidentiality, the ITDS and agencies will certify that steps will be taken to safeguard the integrity of and the confidentiality of information collected (5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)(viii)).

Current Actions: This is a request to permit the United States Treasury Department along with the Federal agencies participating in the ITDS to collect the data for these pilots for a one year period. Volunteers will be sought to participate in the ITDS pilot in order to provide traders with the opportunity to experiment with the advanced technologies and procedures with minimal expense. Through their evaluation of ITDS, they will have input into future trade processes, requirements and the design, development, and deployment of the ITDS.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Importers, exporters, customs house brokers, and carriers who volunteer to participate in ITDS.

Estimated Number of Respondents: There are approximately 120 U.S. participants.

Estimated Time per Respondents: Each response will not exceed 3.5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 0 (No additional burden hours required. Pilot removes the need for parallel processing as stated in original notice of November 25, 1996. Pilot replaces burden hours for Customs document CF 3461-ALT 1515-0069.)

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information and the prototype will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of this information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; (e) estimates of capital start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: October 4, 1999.

William L. Nolle,

International Trade Specialist, International Trade Data System Project Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Financial Management Service

Proposed Collection of Information: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Depositary, Financial Agency, and Collateral Agreement and Depositary, Financial Agency, and Collateral Agreement

AGENCY: Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Financial Management Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection. By this notice, the Financial Management Service solicits comments concerning the form "Resolution Authorizing Execution of Depositary, Financial Agency, and Collateral Agreement" and "Depositary, Financial Agency, and Collateral Agreement."

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 13, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Financial Management Service, Programs Branch, Room 144, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, 20782.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to the Cash Management Policy and Planning Division, 401-14th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20227, (202) 874-6657.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), the Financial Management Service solicits comments on the collection of information described below.

Title: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Depositary, Financial Agency, and Collateral Agreement and Depositary, Financial Agency, and Collateral Agreement.

OMB Number: 1510-0067.

Form Number: FMS-5902 and FMS-5903.

Abstract: These forms are used to give authority to financial institutions to become a depositary of the Federal Government. They also execute an agreement from the financial institutions they are authorized to pledge collateral to secure public funds with Federal Reserve Banks or their designees.

Current Actions: Extension of currently approved collection.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 350 (2 forms ea.).

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 30 minutes (15 min. ea. form).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 175.

Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (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 estimate 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 of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation,