Why Compliance Would Cause JSC Substantial Economic Hardship

JSC produced 303 sweepers in 1998. Its net losses over the past three fiscal years have averaged $1,690,815 annually. It estimates that ''the loss of sales by not being granted an exemption would result in 20% less turnover.'' JSC stated that it employs 170 persons and contributes more than $30,000,000 to the American economy, and, if its application is denied, this would have a measurable effect on its employment force and the company's economic contributions.

JCS stated that it believes it will need 18 to 24 months to complete compliance work after receipt of prototype axles, in order to assure the reliability and endurance of its vehicles when the system is put into production.

How JSC Has Tried To Comply With the Standard in Good Faith

During 1997, JSC concluded a long search to find a manufacturer prepared to design and manufacture economically-viable front and rear axle and brake assemblies compatible with ABS control systems. Its supplier promised to provide axles by August 1998. According to JSC, ''the supplier subsequently acquired another axle manufacturer and instigated a rationalization review of the resulting combined product ranges.'' As a result, the supplier has decided not to produce the original axle design. JCS does not expect suitable prototypes to be available until mid to late 1999. The company has approached other axle manufacturers but has not yet located a better alternative. After it receives prototype axles, significant testing will be required to integrate the ABS with hydrostatic braking and to ensure the reliability and durability of the axles and braking system.

Why Exempting JSC Would Be Consistent With the Public Interest and Objectives of Motor Vehicle Safety

JCS said that it is a leading provider of road sweepers to municipalities, airports, and the like, which benefits the public by helping to reduce health hazards (''air borne, on the ground and in run-off water''). The company believes that the fact that its sweepers are reliable, durable, and cost effective is also in the public interest.

The sweepers operate at average speeds of from 2 to 8 mph for approximately 80 to 90 percent of the time, ''well below the limit requiring ABS brakes.'' JSC stated that its sweepers ''have inherently safe braking (hydrostatic) since the retardation force applied is proportional to the tractive effort being applied, at the time.''

How To Comment on JSC's Application

If you would like to comment on JSC's application, send two copies of your comments, in writing, to: Docket Management, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room PL–401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590, in care of the docket and notice number shown at the top of this document.

We shall consider all comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date stated below. To the extent possible, we shall also consider comments filed after the closing date. You may examine the docket in Room PL–401, both before and after that date, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

When we have reached a decision, we shall publish it in the **Federal Register**.

Comment closing date: March 16, 1999.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30113; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.4.

Issued on: February 18, 1999.

L. Robert Shelton,

Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.

[FR Doc. 99–4521 Filed 2–23–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–59–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

[T.D. 99–17]

Extension of Customs Approval of Oil Inspections USA, Incorporated, as a Commercial Gauger

AGENCY: U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of extension of approval of Oil Inspections USA, Inc., Aston, Pennsylvania, as a commercial gauger.

SUMMARY: Oil Inspections USA, Inc., of Wallington, New Jersey, an approved Customs gauger, has applied to U.S. Customs to extend its approval to gauge petroleum and petroleum products under Part 151.13 of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 151.13) to their Aston, Pennsylvania facility. Customs has determined that this office meets all of the requirements for approval as a commercial gauger. Therefore, in accordance with Part 151.13(f) of the Customs Regulations, Oil Inspections USA, Inc., of Aston, Pennsylvania is approved to gauge the products named above in all Customs ports.

LOCATION: Oil Inspections USA, Inc. approved site is located at: 4009A Market Street, Aston, Pennsylvania 19014.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 9, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ira S. Reese, Chief Science Officer, Laboratories and Scientific Services, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5.5–B, Washington, D.C. 20229 at (202) 927–1060.

Dated: February 17, 1999.

George D. Heavey,

Director, Laboratories and Scientific Service.

[FR Doc. 99–4535 Filed 2–23–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

[T.D. 99–18]

Extension of Customs Approval of Accutest Services Incorporated as a Commercial Gauger

AGENCY: U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Approval of Accutest Services, Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas, as a Commercial Gauger.

SUMMARY: Accutest Services, Inc., of Corpus Christi, Texas, an approved Customs gauger, has applied to U.S. Customs to extend its approval to gauge petroleum and petroleum products under Part 151.13 of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 151.13) to their Houston, Texas facility. Customs has determined that this office meets all of the requirements for approval as a commercial gauger. Therefore, in accordance with Part 151.13(f) of the Customs Regulations, Accutest Services Inc., Houston, Texas, is approved to gauge the products named above in all Customs ports.

LOCATION: Accutest Services, Inc. approved site is located at: 411 Allen-Genoa Road, Houston, Texas.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 9, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ira S. Reese, Chief Science Officer, Laboratories and Scientific Services, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5.5–B, Washington, D.C. 20229, at (202) 927–1060.

Dated: February 17, 1999.

George D. Heavey,

Director, Laboratories and Scientific Service.

[FR Doc. 99–4536 Filed 2–23–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820–02–P