

U.S. Customs and Border Protection


**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
19 CFR Parts 159 and 173**

CBP Dec. No. 16-25

RIN 1515-AE16

ELECTRONIC NOTICE OF LIQUIDATION

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, HDS; Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document adopts as a final rule, with changes, proposed amendments to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations reflecting that official notice of liquidation, suspension of liquidation, and extension of liquidation will be posted electronically on the CBP Web site. The regulatory revisions reflect that official notice of liquidation will no longer be posted at the custom-houses or stations and that official notices of suspension of liquidation and extension of liquidation will no longer be mailed. Additionally, this rule makes certain technical corrections to the CBP regulations to reflect statutory amendments.

DATES: This final rule is effective on January 14, 2017.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 500 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1500), provides U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with the authority, under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, to, among other things, give or transmit notice of liquida-

tion pursuant to an electronic data interchange system. *See* 19 U.S.C. 1500(e). Similarly, CBP is authorized to give notice of extension of liquidation in such form and manner (which may include electronic transmittal) as prescribed by regulation and notice of suspension of liquidation in such manner as considered appropriate. *See* 19 U.S.C. 1504(b) and (c). Additionally, the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) was established by Subtitle B of Title VI—Customs Modernization, in the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 103–182, 107 Stat. 2057, December 8, 1993), to provide for, among other things, the electronic status of liquidation. *See* 19 U.S.C. 1411.

Currently, notices of liquidation for formal entry, including notices of liquidation by operation of law, are physically posted in the customs house or station at the port of entry on CBP Form 4333, and this physical posting is deemed the legal evidence of liquidation. When extension or suspension of liquidation occurs, official notices are mailed on an appropriately modified CBP Form 4333–A.

On October 14, 2016, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 71019) proposing to amend title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (“19 CFR”) to reflect that official notice of liquidation, suspension of liquidation, and extension of liquidation would be posted electronically on the CBP Web site rather than being physically posted at the customhouses or stations or mailed. CBP also proposed eliminating the mailed paper courtesy notices of liquidation but stated its intention to continue sending electronic courtesy notices of liquidation, extension, and suspension via a CBP-authorized electronic data interchange system to the electronic filer when entries liquidate or are extended or suspended. The proposed amendments were intended to modernize, centralize, and facilitate the method by which importers are provided official notice of liquidation, extension, and suspension. Additionally, CBP proposed certain technical corrections to sections 159.11(a), 159.12(f), and 173.4a of 19 CFR to update the regulatory language to reflect statutory changes to sections 504 and 520 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1504 and 1520). The notice of proposed rulemaking requested public comments. The public comment period closed on November 14, 2016.

CBP received four comments regarding the proposed amendments to part 159 of 19 CFR regarding posting official notice of liquidation, suspension of liquidation, and extension of liquidation on the CBP Web site. No comments were received on the technical corrections to the regulations contained in sections 159.11(a), 159.12(f), and 173.4a of 19 CFR reflecting the statutory changes to 19 U.S.C. 1504 and 1520.

Discussion of Comments

Four comments were received in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking. CBP has addressed the comments below:

Comment: Three commenters expressed support for the proposed changes to post liquidation information on CBP's Web site, www.cbp.gov.

CBP Response: CBP appreciates the support and the input from the commenters.

Comment: One commenter suggested that the regulations state that the link will be visible on the CBP home page so that it remains conspicuous regardless of future CBP Web site changes and the public will not have to search for the link.

CBP Response: CBP agrees that the link needs to be conspicuous although not necessarily on the homepage. The link will be labelled "Official Notices of Liquidation" and, pursuant to 19 CFR 159.9(b), it will be placed in a conspicuous place on CBP's Web site in such a manner that it can readily be located and consulted by all interested persons. CBP assures that the link will remain conspicuous regardless of any potential future CBP Web site changes.

Comment: One commenter stated that the regulations should include a definition of what constitutes the posting and its data elements.

CBP Response: CBP disagrees that adding a definition of what constitutes the posting and its data elements is necessary because CBP believes such a definition would not add value or clarity. As proposed, the regulations at 19 CFR 159.9 provide that the posting will occur on CBP's Web site, address the date of posting, state that the electronic posting will be deemed the legal evidence of liquidation, and address liquidations by operation of law.

Comment: One commenter stated that the regulations appear not to deal with reliquidations and proposed adding reliquidation to 19 CFR 159.9(b).

CBP Response: CBP disagrees with the commenter. CBP intends that the posting of reliquidations will also be done electronically. Section 173.3(b) regarding reliquidation (which is in the current regulations and was not proposed to be amended) provides that notice of reliquidation will be given in accordance with the requirements for giving notice of the original liquidation. Accordingly, CBP believes there is no need to add reliquidation to 19 CFR 159.9(b).

Comment: One commenter stated that the regulation should spell out in detail how the date of posting will appear.

CBP Response: CBP disagrees that the regulation needs to spell out in detail how the date of posting will appear as the posting will be in

a format that is easy to understand. The date of posting will appear in standard MM/DD/YYYY format. For example, December 31, 2016, will appear as 12/31/2016.

Comment: One commenter asked if importers or brokers will be able to print the notice and asked if the printed notices would include the posting date.

CBP Response: A printed copy may be obtained using a web browser's print functionality which should include the information that is displayed on the screen, such as the posting date.

Comment: One commenter stated that the liquidation information posted on the CBP Web site should be searchable using data elements.

CBP Response: CBP agrees and has designed the liquidation information posted on the CBP Web site to be searchable using data elements.

Comment: One commenter stated that the large majority of liquidations take place on a Friday and asked if that practice will continue.

CBP Response: CBP has designed the functionality so that entries that are set for auto-liquidation, that is, liquidations that occur on the standard 314-day cycle without CBP intervention will continue to be made on Fridays. However, for manual liquidations where CBP action is required, liquidations will generally post to the Web site within 90 minutes after CBP processes the liquidation.

Comment: Two commenters suggested that the 15-month timeline for maintaining liquidation information on the CBP Web site should be stated in the regulations.

CBP Response: CBP agrees that adding this language to the regulations will be beneficial. Accordingly, CBP has added language to §§ 159.9(c)(1), 159.12(b), and 159.12(c) stating that notices of liquidation, extension, and suspension, respectively, will be maintained on the CBP Web site for a minimum of 15 months.

Comment: One commenter requested that CBP place in the regulations the process for requesting access to notices that are no longer available on the Web site beyond the 15-month timeline.

CBP Response: CBP disagrees that this process needs to be included in the regulations. Guidance will be provided in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Business Rules Process Document, which can be updated in a quicker manner than the regulations should a more efficient process for obtaining historical information be developed. When the information is no longer available on the CBP Web site, a request may be made to CBP for historical information by contacting the filer's assigned client representative or by contacting

the appropriate port or Center of Excellence and Expertise directly. Additionally, ACE account holders may run queries to obtain the historical information without having to contact CBP.

Comment: One commenter stated that CBP has the ability to post notices regarding liquidations by operation of law immediately when they occur in the electronic environment rather than “within a reasonable period” after each liquidation by operation of law. Another commenter asked that CBP post notice of liquidation by operation of law within 14 days of the liquidation.

CBP Response: CBP disagrees that it has the ability to post this information immediately upon occurrence because in many situations, CBP is unaware of the liquidation by operation of law for some time after it has occurred. However, the commenters validly pointed out that the electronic environment enables CBP to post notice without delay. Accordingly, based on these comments, CBP has amended the regulation at 19 CFR 159.9(c)(2)(i) to state that CBP will post this information when it has determined that an entry has liquidated by operation of law, and has removed the phrase regarding posting within a reasonable time period.

Comment: One commenter asked if the term “filer” was the filer code or the name of the importer of record and noted that both the filer code and the importer of record should be included with the information posted on the CBP Web site.

CBP Response: The term “filer” is not referencing the filer code or importer of record number but is instead referring to the party transmitting entry/entry summary data to CBP. The filer code is a searchable data element and will be displayed in the search results. However, as stated in the notice of proposed rulemaking, when the results of a search are viewed, the CBP Web site will not display the importer of record numbers.

Comment: One commenter asked if people in one location may search the notices for another location and used the example of being in Miami and searching notices from Long Beach.

CBP Response: Because information will be posted on the CBP Web site, all notices of liquidation throughout the country will be available to view and search regardless of the physical location of the searcher.

Comment: One commenter asked that the liquidation information remain on the CBP Web site indefinitely until historical information is available to sureties through the ACE portal, so that the surety can generate search results easily for its own list of entries. This commenter also requested that “Surety Code” be added to the list of data elements.

CBP Response: As stated elsewhere in the document, the liquidation information will be maintained on the CBP Web site for a minimum of 15 months. Regarding sureties, CBP has provided for surety code to be a searchable data element.

Comment: One commenter asked that the surety on an entry be included in 19 CFR 159.9(d) as a party to receive courtesy notices of liquidation.

CBP Response: A surety on an entry is able to receive courtesy notice if it is set up in ACE to receive courtesy notices of liquidation. However, based on this comment, CBP has amended the regulation at 19 CFR 159.9(d) to state that courtesy notices of the extension will be sent to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry.

Comment: One commenter asked that the filer and the surety be included as a recipient of courtesy notices of extension of liquidation in 19 CFR 159.12(d)(2) in order to maintain consistency with 19 CFR 159.12(b) and (c) regarding whom the regulations identify as parties receiving courtesy notices.

CBP Response: CBP agrees that the regulations should each be consistent in this regard. Accordingly, based on this comment, CBP has amended the regulation at 19 CFR 159.12(b), (c), and (d)(2), to state that courtesy notices of the extension will be sent to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry through a CBP-authorized electronic data interchange.

Conclusion

Accordingly, after review of the comments and further consideration, CBP has decided to adopt as final, with the changes discussed above, the proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 71019) on October 14, 2016. Specifically, the final rule contains the following changes based on the comments:

- Clarification in § 159.9(c)(1), which pertains to the date of liquidation, that notices of liquidation will be maintained on *www.cbp.gov* for a minimum of 15 months.
- Clarification in § 159.9(c)(2)(i), which pertains to entries liquidated by operation of law, that notice of such will be posted when CBP determines that an entry has liquidated by operation of law.
- Clarification in § 159.9(c)(2)(ii) by making editorial changes for ease of reading.
- Clarification in § 159.9(d), which pertains to courtesy notice of liquidation, that CBP will endeavor to provide courtesy notice to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry.

- Clarification in § 159.12(b), which pertains to notices of extension, that notices of extension will be maintained on *www.cbp.gov* for a minimum of 15 months and that courtesy notice will be sent to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry.
- Clarification in § 159.12(c), which pertains to notices of suspension, that notices of suspension will be maintained on *www.cbp.gov* for a minimum of 15 months and that courtesy notice will be sent to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry.
- Clarification in § 159.12(d)(2), which pertains to additional extensions at the importer’s request, that courtesy notice will be sent to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry.

Executive Orders 13563 and 12866

Executive Orders 13563 and 12866 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, the Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed this regulation.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

This section examines the impact of this rule on small entities per the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, requires agencies to assess the impact of regulations on small entities. A small entity may be a small business (defined as any independently owned and operated business not dominant in its field that qualifies as a small business per the Small Business Act); a small not-for-profit organization; or a small governmental jurisdiction (locality with fewer than 50,000 people).

Background

Most goods imported into the United States are subject to duty assessments, which CBP conducts during a process known as liquidation. During this liquidation process, CBP performs a final computation of duties (not including vessel repair duties) on the entry covering the imported merchandise and then closes out the entry. In

accordance with current regulations, CBP officially notifies importers,¹ as well as the public, of a formal entry's liquidation by posting a weekly bulletin notice of liquidation in a readily-located and consulted place in the customhouse or station at each port of entry.² These notices are generally available for importers and the public to peruse for a few weeks before they are placed in CBP storage. CBP provides the same official notice of liquidation for informal entries where a duty cannot be determined at the time of entry and for reliquidated dutiable entries.³ For other informal, mail, and baggage entries, CBP furnishes official notice of liquidation to an importer (and its surety when required) by a suitable printed statement appearing on the receipt issued for duties collected, by release of the merchandise under a free entry, or by acceptance of the free entry after release under a special permit for immediate delivery.⁴ Once CBP provides official notice of liquidation or reliquidation, importers generally have 180 days to file a protest challenging certain aspects of their entry's liquidation.⁵ In addition to these official notices, CBP endeavors to provide importers (and their sureties) informal, courtesy notices of liquidation and reliquidation for entries scheduled to be liquidated or deemed liquidated by operation of law. For the majority of importers filing entries, who actually file electronically, CBP generally sends these filers (and their sureties) courtesy notices of liquidation and reliquidation via a CBP-authorized electronic data interchange system before the official notice (and protest period's start date). For the small portion of importers who file entries by paper, CBP typically mails paper courtesy notices of liquidation and reliquidation using CBP Form 4333–A to these filers on or around the date of the official notice's posting. These courtesy notices are not direct, formal, and decisive notices of liquidation or reliquidation; however, based on anecdotal evidence, most importers rely on these courtesy notices to determine liquidations and reliquidations to avoid the time and resource costs incurred to view official bulletin notices at U.S. customhouses or stations.

Some liquidations may be extended or suspended. If liquidation is extended or suspended, CBP officially notifies the importer and its

¹ For the purposes of this analysis, "importers" can also refer to agents, such as brokers, who act on behalf of importers.

² See 19 CFR 159.9(b).

³ See 19 CFR 159.10.

⁴ See 19 CFR 159.10.

⁵ For entries filed before December 18, 2004, the time limit is within 90 days after liquidation, but for entries filed on or after that date, it is now 180 days (see CFR part 174; see 19 U.S.C. 1514(c)(3) as amended by section 2103(2)(B), Pub. L. 108–429).

surety by mail using CBP Form 4333–A, as appropriately modified.⁶ CBP also provides importers who file entries electronically and their sureties with electronic courtesy notices of extension and suspension, which are generally sent in advance of mailed notifications. Although these courtesy notices are not direct, formal, and decisive notices of extension or suspension, CBP believes that most importers (and all sureties) rely on them to determine extensions and suspensions because importers receive them before the official notice and they contain the same information. Importers who file entries by paper do not receive electronic or paper courtesy notices of extension and suspension.

In an effort to modernize the liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension notification processes, CBP, through this rulemaking, will discontinue physically posting official bulletin notices of liquidation and reliquidation at U.S. port of entry customhouses and stations. Instead, CBP will post these official notices in a readily-located, conspicuous place on the CBP Web site: *www.cbp.gov*. Additionally through this rule, CBP will begin posting electronically on *www.cbp.gov* official notices of extension and suspension that are currently mailed. CBP will tie all electronic notices directly to an already-developed, automated process by which entries are liquidated, reliquidated, extended, or suspended, ensuring that these actions and CBP's official notifications of these actions occur almost simultaneously. This rule will not change the method in which CBP provides *electronic* courtesy notices of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, or suspension, but it will discontinue the practice of mailing any paper notices. For other informal, mail, and baggage entries, CBP will continue to furnish official notices of liquidation and reliquidation to importers (and their sureties when required) by a suitable printed statement appearing on the receipt issued for duties collected, by release of the merchandise under a free entry, or by acceptance of the free entry after release under a special permit for immediate delivery. As described next, these regulatory changes will introduce benefits and costs to importers, including small entities.

For most importers (and their sureties), this rule will simply change the way in which they can access official notices of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension. Instead of posting weekly official bulletin notices of liquidation and reliquidation at each U.S. customhouse and station and mailing official notices of extension and suspension, CBP will publish these notices on the CBP Web site once this rule is in effect. CBP will also discontinue mailing all paper courtesy notices of liquidation and reliquidation with this rule. Be-

⁶ See 19 CFR 159.12.

cause the vast majority of importers (and all their sureties) already rely on the electronic courtesy notices of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension that CBP provides, this rule's transition to electronic official notice publications will presumably only affect a small portion of importers. Specifically, this transition to electronic notice publications will only affect those importers who currently rely on official bulletin notices physically posted at U.S. customhouses and stations and those importers who receive and rely on paper courtesy notifications of liquidation and reliquidation and paper official notices of extension and suspension due to their paper entry filings.

Number of Small Entities Affected by Rule

Using historical data, CBP estimates that importers took an average of 2,500 trips to U.S. customhouses or stations each year for the single purpose of viewing official bulletin notices because the official bulletin notice's posting date was significant to a protest that importer planned to file.⁷ CBP also estimates that CBP mailed an average of 23,500 paper courtesy notices of liquidation and reliquidation and 3,100 paper notices of extension and suspension each year to importers who filed paper entries.⁸ Considering this historical data, CBP estimates that this rule could affect up to approximately 29,100 importers per year. To the extent that the same importer took more than one trip to the U.S. customhouse or station to view an official bulletin notice or received and relied on more than one paper notice, the number of importers affected by this rule will be lower. Nonetheless, because the majority of importers are small businesses, CBP believes this rule will affect a substantial number of small entities.

Impacts of Rule on Small Entities

This rule's transition to fully electronic notices will require the estimated 29,100 importers who currently rely on official bulletin notices physically posted at U.S. customhouses and stations and those who rely on paper notices of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension to visit the CBP Web site to determine entry

⁷ Based on the 2,500 Applications for Further Review (AFRs) filed with protests in 2015. Importers or their attorneys who file AFRs depend on the exact dates of liquidation or reliquidation to file a timely protest, and thus likely travel to a U.S. customhouse or station to physically view official bulletin notices with the official dates of liquidation and reliquidation. Using the 2015 AFR filings as a proxy for trips taken to view official bulletin notices, CBP estimates that importers or their attorneys took 2,500 trips to U.S. customhouses or stations each year for the single purpose of viewing official bulletin notices. Sources: 19 CFR 174.12(e) and email correspondence with CBP's Office of Trade on July 15, 2016.

⁸ Based on data received through email correspondence with CBP's Office of Trade on May 26, 2016; June 22–24, 2016; August 29, 2016; and September 21, 2016.

liquidations, reliquidations, extensions, and suspensions.⁹ To view this rule's official bulletin notices on the CBP Web site, CBP assumes that these importers will spend an added 4 minutes (0.0667 hours)¹⁰ navigating the CBP Web site to find a liquidation, reliquidation, extension, or suspension notice, at a time cost of \$2.01 based on the assumed hourly wage rate for importers.¹¹ Most affected importers will presumably visit the CBP Web site once per year to view an entry's official notice of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, or suspension, for a total cost of \$2.01 per year.¹²

⁹ Importers could set up an Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) account to receive electronic courtesy notices of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension, but the time cost to do so is likely longer than the time it takes to view official notices on the CBP Web site. As such, CBP assumes that importers who receive and rely on paper notices of liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension now will visit the CBP Web site for official notice rather than set up an ACE account to receive electronic courtesy notices once this rule is effective.

¹⁰ The 4-minute added time burden represents the incremental change in the time burden over the current paper notification process. Source: Email correspondence with CBP's Office of Trade on April 26, 2016.

¹¹ The time cost estimate is equal to the assumed hourly wage for importers (\$30.09) multiplied by the hourly time burden for a trade member to navigate the CBP Web site to find a liquidation, reliquidation, extension, or suspension notice (0.0667 hours), and then rounded. CBP bases the \$30.09 hourly wage rate for importers on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) 2015 median hourly wage rate for Cargo and Freight Agents (\$20.13), which CBP assumes best represents the wage for importers, by the ratio of BLS' average 2015 total compensation to wages and salaries for Office and Administrative Support occupations (1.4799), the assumed occupational group for importers, to account for non-salary employee benefits. CBP then adjusted this figure, which was in 2015 U.S. dollars, to 2016 U.S. dollars by applying a 1.0 percent annual growth rate to the figure, as recommended by the U.S. Department of Transportation's value of travel time guidance. Source of median wage rate: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Occupational Employment Statistics, "May 2015 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, United States—Median Hourly Wage by Occupation Code: 43–5011." Updated March 30, 2016. Available at <http://www.bls.gov/oes/2015/may/oes435011.htm>. Accessed June 1, 2016.

The total compensation to wages and salaries ratio is equal to the calculated average of the 2015 quarterly estimates (shown under Mar., June, Sep., Dec.) of the total compensation cost per hour worked for Office and Administrative Support occupations (\$24.9475) divided by the calculated average of the 2015 quarterly estimates (shown under Mar., June, Sep., Dec.) of wages and salaries cost per hour worked for the same occupation category (\$16.8575). Source of total compensation to wages and salaries ratio data: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employer Costs for Employee Compensation. *Employer Costs for Employee Compensation Historical Listing March 2004–March 2016*, "Table 3. Civilian workers, by occupational group: employer costs per hours worked for employee compensation and costs as a percentage of total compensation, 2004–2016 by Respondent Type: Office and administrative support occupations." June 9, 2016. Available at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/sp/ececrtn.pdf>. Accessed June 14, 2016.

Source of suggested growth rate: U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Transportation Policy. *The Value of Travel Time Savings: Departmental Guidance for Conducting Economic Evaluations Revision 2 (2015 Update)*, "Table 4 (Revision 2—corrected): Recommended Hourly Values of Travel Time Savings." April 29, 2015. <http://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Revised%20Departmental%20Guidance%20on%20Valuation%20of%20Travel%20Time%20in%20Economic%20Analysis.pdf>. Accessed June 1, 2016.

¹² Importers will likely access the CBP Web site once a year to determine whether CBP has officially liquidated, reliquidated, extended, or suspended their entry. If CBP liquidates or

However, some affected importers, such as those who receive extension and suspension notices that are in effect for an unknown amount of time, could visit the CBP Web site more than once per year for an entry, incurring the access cost of \$2.01 each time they visit the CBP Web site. Even if an importer accesses the CBP Web site twice a month for an entry, or 24 times per year, it will incur only a \$48.24 cost to do so. The average value per entry was \$69,300 in FY 2015.¹³ The range of annual importer costs for this rule (\$2.01 to \$48.24) amounts to between 0.003 percent and 0.07 percent of this average entry value. Likewise, if an importer processes multiple entries per year, its total costs from this rule will be higher but the value of its entries will also be higher, meaning that the average cost to the importer will be between 0.003 percent and 0.07 percent of the entry value regardless of the number of entries the importer files per year. CBP does not consider this to be a significant economic impact.

Along with the minor Web site access cost imposed by this rule, this rule will provide benefits to importers who currently rely on official bulletin notices physically posted at U.S. customhouses and stations. This rule's electronic publication of official bulletin notices of liquida-

reliquidates an entry, which will be the case for the importers who currently take 2,500 trips to U.S. customhouses or stations to view official bulletin notices and who receive 23,500 paper courtesy notices of liquidation and reliquidation annually, the importer will likely not have to access the CBP Web site again after the initial Web site visit to determine the entry's liquidation status. However, in a small number of cases, an importer may have to access the Web site more than once per year, over the course of more than one year to determine its entry's reliquidation status. If CBP extends or suspends an entry, which will be the case for the importers who receive 3,100 paper notices of extension and suspension annually, the importer may have to access the CBP Web site more than once per year, over the course of more than one year to determine the status of its entry's extension or suspension. However, considering the typical timeframes of extensions and suspensions, importers are most likely to access the CBP Web site only once per year for information on their entry's extension or suspension. Moreover, importers will likely receive information from CBP indicating whether CBP has reliquidated their entry or their extension or suspension has ended.

¹³ Based on fiscal year 2015 U.S. entry and import value data. Source of entry data: U.S. Customs and Border Protection. *Summary of Performance and Financial Information Fiscal Year 2015*. May 2016. Available at <https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2016-May/summary-performance-financial-info-2015.pdf>. Accessed September 22, 2016. Source of import value data: U.S. Census Bureau. *FT920: U.S. Merchandise Trade Selected Highlights—October 2014 through September 2015 Releases*, "Exhibit 3: U.S. Imports—U.S. Customs District of Entry—Total General Customs Value by Month." December 5, 2014–November 4, 2015. Available at https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/ft920_index.html. Accessed September 22, 2016. Based on fiscal year 2015 U.S. entry and import value data. Source of entry data: U.S. Customs and Border Protection. *Summary of Performance and Financial Information Fiscal Year 2015*. May 2016. Available at <https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2016-May/summary-performance-financial-info-2015.pdf>. Accessed September 22, 2016. Source of import value data: U.S. Census Bureau. *FT920: U.S. Merchandise Trade Selected Highlights—October 2014 through September 2015 Releases*, "Exhibit 3: U.S. Imports—U.S. Customs District of Entry—Total General Customs Value by Month." December 5, 2014–November 4, 2015. Available at https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/ft920_index.html. Accessed September 22, 2016.

tion and reliquidation will allow these importers to avoid visiting U.S. customhouses and stations for formal entry liquidation and reliquidation information, which typically occur 2,500 times a year. For each trip to a U.S. customhouse or station avoided, importers will save an estimated 45 minutes (0.75 hours), which will result in a time cost saving of \$22.57 using the average hourly wage for importers of \$30.09.¹⁴ Importers will also save \$16.20 in travel costs per trip based on the estimated distance they sustain from traveling to and from a U.S. customhouse or station—30 miles—and the IRS's \$0.54 standard mileage rate for business purposes.¹⁵ To the extent that some trips are taken for multiple purposes, not just for viewing an official bulletin notice of liquidation or reliquidation, fewer costs will be avoided and the benefits of this rule per trip will be lower.

The electronic bulletin notices introduced with this rule will also provide benefits of eased access, relatively quicker notification, and extended viewing to importers. In particular, this electronic transition will allow importers to easily view and query a complete, consolidated list of U.S. entry liquidations, reliquidations, extensions, and suspensions, thus facilitating the process by which these individuals obtain such entry information. For importers who typically rely on paper courtesy notices for liquidation and reliquidation information, which they receive by mail after the official notice's posting, this electronic posting will provide the added benefit of more timely notice and additional protest time. Importers who receive and rely on paper courtesy notices will also benefit from this rule's consolidated electronic notice posting. This change will allow importers and their agents to view liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension notices simultaneously instead of individually as they currently do through paper notices. Furthermore, importers will have at least 14 more months to view official liquidation, reliquidation, extension, and suspension notices before having to request access to the notices through CBP.

Conclusion

Although CBP believes that this rule will affect a substantial number of small entities, specifically importers, CBP believes that the (negative) economic impact of this rule on small entities will not be

¹⁴ The time cost estimate is equal to the assumed hourly wage for importers (\$30.09) multiplied by the estimated hourly time burden for a trade member to travel to and from a U.S. customhouse or station (0.75 hours), and then rounded.

¹⁵ Source of miles traveled: Based on estimates from CBP's Office of Trade on May 2, 2016. Source of mileage rate: Internal Revenue Service. *2016 Standard Mileage Rates for Business, Medical and Moving Announced*. IR-2015-137, December 17, 2015. Available at <https://www.irs.gov/uac/Newsroom/2016-Standard-Mileage-Rates-for-Business-Medical-and-Moving-Announced>. Accessed April 19, 2016.

significant. Accordingly, CBP certifies that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. CBP received no public comments on the Electronic Notice of Liquidation Notice of Proposed Rulemaking challenging this certification.

Paperwork Reduction Act

As there is no collection of information proposed in this document, the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507) are inapplicable.

Signing Authority

This document is being issued in accordance with § 0.1(a)(1) of the CBP Regulations (19 CFR 0.1(a)(1)) pertaining to the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury (or his/her delegate) to approve regulations related to certain customs revenue functions.

List of Subjects

19 CFR Part 159

Antidumping, Countervailing duties, Customs duties and inspection, Foreign currencies.

19 CFR Part 173

Administrative practice and procedure, Customs duties and inspection.

Amendments to the CBP Regulations

For the reasons given above, parts 159 and 173 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR parts 159 and 173) are amended as set forth below:

PART 159—LIQUIDATION OF DUTIES

■ 1. The general authority citation for part 159 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 19 U.S.C. 66, 1500, 1504, 1624.

* * * * *

■ 2. Section 159.9 is revised to read as follows:

§ 159.9 Notice of liquidation and date of liquidation for formal entries.

(a) *Notice of liquidation.* Notice of liquidation of formal entries will be provided on CBP's public Web site, *www.cbp.gov*.

(b) *Posting of notice.* The notice of liquidation will be posted for the information of importers in a conspicuous place on *www.cbp.gov* in such a manner that it can readily be located and consulted by all interested persons.

(c) *Date of liquidation*—(1) *Generally.* The notice of liquidation will be dated with the date it is posted electronically on *www.cbp.gov* for the information of importers. This electronic posting will be deemed the legal evidence of liquidation. The notice of liquidation will be maintained on *www.cbp.gov* for a minimum of 15 months from the date of posting.

(2) *Exception: Entries liquidated by operation of law.* (i) Entries liquidated by operation of law at the expiration of the time limitations prescribed in section 504, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1504), and set out in §§ 159.11 and 159.12, will be deemed liquidated as of the date of expiration of the appropriate statutory period and will be posted on *www.cbp.gov* when CBP determines that each entry has liquidated by operation of law and will be dated with the date of liquidation by operation of law.

(ii) For liquidation notices that were posted or lodged in the customhouse, pursuant to section 514, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1514) and part 174 of this chapter, a protest of a decision relating to an entry made before December 18, 2004, must be filed within 90 days from the date of liquidation of an entry by operation of law or within 90 days from the date the bulletin notice thereof was posted or lodged in the customhouse, or, in the case of a protest of a decision relating to an entry made on or after December 18, 2004, within 180 days from the date of liquidation of an entry by operation of law.

(iii) For liquidation notices posted on *www.cbp.gov*, pursuant to section 514, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1514) and part 174 of this chapter, a protest of a decision relating to an entry made before December 18, 2004, must be filed within 90 days from the date of liquidation of an entry by operation of law or within 90 days from the date notice thereof is posted on *www.cbp.gov*, or, in the case of a protest of a decision relating to an entry made on or after December 18, 2004, within 180 days from the date of liquidation of an entry by operation of law.

(d) *Courtesy notice of liquidation.* CBP will endeavor to provide the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry with a courtesy notice of liquidation for all electronically filed entries liquidated by CBP or deemed liquidated by operation of law. The courtesy notice of liquidation that CBP will endeavor to provide will be electronically transmitted pursuant to a CBP authorized electronic data inter-

change system if the entry was filed electronically in accordance with part 143 of this chapter. This notice will serve as an informal, courtesy notice and not as a direct, formal, and decisive notice of liquidation.

§ 159.10 [Amended]

■ 3. Section 159.10 is amended as follows:

■ a. By removing the words “posting or lodging of” from the last sentence in paragraph (b);

■ b. By removing the words “on CBP Form 4333 posted or lodged” from the last sentence of paragraph (c)(1); and

■ c. By removing the words “on a bulletin notice of liquidation, CBP Form 4333,” from the last sentence of paragraph (c)(3).

■ 4. In § 159.11, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 159.11 Entries liquidated by operation of law.

(a) *Time limit generally.* Except as provided in § 159.12, an entry not liquidated within one year from the date of entry of the merchandise, or the date of final withdrawal of all merchandise covered by a warehouse entry, will be deemed liquidated by operation of law at the rate of duty, value, quantity, and amount of duties asserted by the importer of record. Notice of liquidation will be given electronically as provided in §§ 159.9 and 159.10(c)(3) of this part. CBP will endeavor to provide a courtesy notice of liquidation in accordance with § 159.9(d).

* * * * *

■ 5. In § 159.12, revise paragraphs (b), (c), (d)(2), and (f) and remove paragraph (g).

The revisions read as follows:

§ 159.12 Extension of time for liquidation.

* * * * *

(b) *Notice of extension.* If the port director extends the time for liquidation, as provided in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the official notice of extension and reasons therefor will be posted on *www.cbp.gov*. The notice of extension will be maintained on *www.cbp.gov* for a minimum of 15 months from the date of posting. The port director will also endeavor to transmit a courtesy notice of extension to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry through a CBP-authorized electronic data interchange system.

(c) *Notice of suspension.* If the liquidation of an entry is suspended as required by statute or court order, as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the official notice of suspension will be posted on *www.cbp.gov*. The notice of suspension will be maintained on

www.cbp.gov for a minimum of 15 months from the date of posting. The port director will also endeavor to transmit a courtesy notice of suspension to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry through a CBP-authorized electronic data interchange system.

(d) * **

(2) *At importer's request.* If the statutory period has been extended for one year at the importer's request, and the importer thereafter determines that additional time is necessary, it may request another extension in writing before the original extension expires, giving reasons for its request. If the port director finds that good cause (as defined in paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section) exists, the official notice of extension extending the time for liquidation for an additional period not to exceed one year will be posted on *www.cbp.gov*, and CBP will provide courtesy notice of the extension to the entry filer or its agent and the surety on an entry through a CBP-authorized electronic data interchange system.

* * * * *

(f) *Time limitation.* An entry not liquidated within four years from either the date of entry, or the date of final withdrawal of all the merchandise covered by a warehouse entry, will be deemed liquidated by operation of law at the rate of duty, value, quantity, and amount of duty asserted by the importer of record, unless liquidation continues to be suspended by statute or court order. CBP will endeavor to provide a courtesy notice of liquidation, in accordance with § 159.9(d), in addition to the notice specified in § 159.9(c)(2)(i).

PART 173—ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW IN GENERAL

■ 6. The general authority citation for part 173 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 19 U.S.C. 66, 1501, 1520, 1624.

■ 7. Revise § 173.4a to read as follows:

§ 173.4a Refund of excess duties, fees, charges, or exaction paid prior to liquidation.

Pursuant to section 520(a)(4), Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1520(a)(4)), whenever an importer of record declares or it is ascertained that excess duties, fees, charges, or exactions have been deposited or paid, the port director may, prior to liquidation of an entry or reconciliation, take appropriate action to refund the deposit or payment of excess duties, fees, charges, or exactions.

Dated: December 6, 2016.

R. GIL KERLIKOWSKE,
Commissioner,
U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

TIMOTHY E. SKUD,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 12, 2106 (81 FR 89375)]



APPROVAL OF INTERTEK USA, INC., AS A COMMERCIAL GAUGER

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of approval of Intertek USA, Inc., as a commercial gauger.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that Intertek USA, Inc., has been approved to gauge petroleum and petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of January 26, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The approval of Intertek USA, Inc., as commercial gauger became effective on January 26, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for January 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.13, that Intertek USA, Inc., 214 N Gulf Blvd., Freeport, TX 77541, has been approved to gauge petroleum and petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.13. Intertek USA, Inc., is approved for the following gauging procedures for petroleum and certain petroleum products set forth by the American Petroleum Institute (API):

API chapters	Title
3	Tank gauging.
7	Temperature Determination
8	Sampling.

API chapters	Title
11	Physical Properties Data.
12	Calculations.
17	Maritime Measurements.

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited or approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific gauger service this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344–1060. The inquiry may also be sent to *cbp.labhq@dhs.gov*. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories. <http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories>.

Dated: December 7, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 15, 2106 (81 FR 90861)]



APPROVAL OF INTERTEK USA, INC., AS A COMMERCIAL GAUGER

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of approval of Intertek USA, Inc. as a commercial gauger.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that Intertek USA, Inc. has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of June 9, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The approval of Intertek USA, Inc. as commercial gauger became effective on June 9, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for June 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific

Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.13, that Intertek USA, Inc., 91-110 Hanua Street #204, Kapolei, HI 96707, has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.13. Intertek USA, Inc. is approved for the following gauging procedures for petroleum and certain petroleum products from the American Petroleum Institute (API):

API chapters	Title
3	Tank Gauging.
7	Temperature Determination
8	Sampling.
11	Physical Properties Data.
12	Calculations.
14	Natural Gas Fluids Measurement.
17	Maritime Measurement.

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific gauger service this entity is approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to *CBPGaugersLabs@cbp.dhs.gov*. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories. <http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories>.

Dated: December 7, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.

ACCREDITATION AND APPROVAL OF INTERTEK USA, INC., AS A COMMERCIAL GAUGER AND LABORATORY

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of accreditation and approval of Intertek USA, Inc., as a commercial gauger and laboratory.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that Intertek USA, Inc., has been approved to gauge and accredited to test petroleum and petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of March 2, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The accreditation and approval of Intertek USA, Inc., as commercial gauger and laboratory became effective on March 2, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for March 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.12 and 19 CFR 151.13, that Intertek USA, Inc., 804 East North St., Cushing, OK 74023, has been approved to gauge and accredited to test petroleum and petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.12 and 19 CFR 151.13. Intertek USA, Inc., is approved for the following gauging procedures for petroleum and certain petroleum products set forth by the American Petroleum Institute (API):

API chapters	Title
3	Tank Gauging.
5	Metering.
7	Temperature Determination
8	Sampling.
12	Calculations.
14	Natural Gas Fluids Measurements.
17	Maritime Measurement.

Intertek USA, Inc., is accredited for the following laboratory analysis procedures and methods for petroleum and certain petroleum

products set forth by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Laboratory Methods (CBPL) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):

CBPL No.	ASTM	Title
27-01	D287	Standard Test Method for API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Petroleum Products (Hydrometer Method).
27-02	D1298	Standard Test Method for Density, Relative Density (Specific Gravity), or API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products by Hydrometer Method.
27-03	D4006	Standard Test Method for Water in Crude Oil by Distillation.
27-04	D95	Standard Test Method for Water in Petroleum Products and Bituminous Materials by Distillation.
27-05	D4928	Standard Test Method for Water in Crude Oils by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration.
27-06	D473	Standard Test Method for Sediment in Crude Oils and Fuel Oils by the Extraction Method.
27-10	D323	Standard Test Method for Vapor Pressure of Petroleum Products (Reid Method).
27-11	D445	Standard Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids.
27-13	D4294	Standard Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum and Petroleum Products by Energy-Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry.
27-46	D5002	Standard Test Method for Density and Relative Density of Crude Oils by Digital Density Analyzer.
27-48	D4052	Standard Test Method for Density and Relative Density of Liquids by Digital Density Meter.
27-50	D93	Standard Test Methods for Flash-Point by Pensky-Martens Closed Cup Tester.
27-58	D5191	Standard Test Method For Vapor Pressure of Petroleum Products.
N/A	D4007	Standard Test Method for Water and Sediment in Crude Oil by the Centrifuge Method (Laboratory Procedure).

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct laboratory analyses and gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited or approved by the U.S.

Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific test or gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific test or gauger service this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to cbp.labhq@dhs.gov. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories.<http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories>.

Dated: December 7, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 15, 2016 (81 FR 90859)]

ACREDITATION AND APPROVAL OF AMSPEC SERVICES, LLC, AS A COMMERCIAL GAUGER AND LABORATORY

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of accreditation and approval of AmSpec Services, LLC, as a commercial gauger and laboratory.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that AmSpec Services, LLC, has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products and accredited to test petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of August 4, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The accreditation and approval of AmSpec Services, LLC, as commercial gauger and laboratory became effective on August 4, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for August 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.12 and 19 CFR 151.13, that AmSpec Services, LLC, 36 Mileed Way, Avenel, NJ 07001, has been

approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products and accredited to test petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.12 and 19 CFR 151.13. AmSpec Services, LLC is approved for the following gauging procedures for petroleum and certain petroleum products from the American Petroleum Institute (API):

API chapters	Title
1	Vocabulary.
3	Tank Gauging.
7	Temperature Determination
8	Sampling.
11	Physical Properties.
12	Calculations.
17	Maritime Measurement.

AmSpec Services, LLC is accredited for the following laboratory analysis procedures and methods for petroleum and certain petroleum products set forth by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Laboratory Methods (CBPL) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):

CBPL No.	ASTM	Title
27-01	D287	Standard Test Method for API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Petroleum Products (Hydrometer Method).
27-02	D1298	Standard Test Method for Density, Relative Density (Specific Gravity), or API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products by Hydrometer Method.
27-03	D4006	Standard Test Method for Water in Crude Oil by Distillation.
27-04	D95	Standard Test Method for Water in Petroleum Products and Bituminous Materials by Distillation.
27-05	D4928	Standard Test Method for Water in Crude Oils by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration.
27-06	D473	Standard Test Method for Sediment in Crude Oils and Fuel Oils by the Extraction Method.
27-08	D86	Standard Test Method for Distillation of Petroleum Products.
27-11	D445	Standard Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids.

CBPL No.	ASTM	Title
27-13	D4294	Standard Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum and Petroleum Products by Energy-Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry.
27-14	D2622	Standard Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products.
27-20	D4057	Standard Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products.
27-21	D4177	Standard Practice for the Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products.
27-48	D4052	Standard Test Method for Density and Relative Density of Liquids by Digital Density Meter.
27-50	D93	Standard Test Methods for Flash-Point by Pensky-Martens Closed Cup Tester.
27-53	D2709	Standard Test Method for Water and Sediment in Middle Distillate Fuels by Centrifuge.
27-54	D1796	Standard Test Method for Water and Sediment in Fuel Oils by the Centrifuge Method.
27-58	D5191	Standard Test Method For Vapor Pressure of Petroleum Products.

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct laboratory analyses and gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited or approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific test or gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific test or gauger service this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to CBPGaugersLabs@cbp.dhs.gov. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories. <http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories>.

Dated: December 7, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.

ACCREDITATION OF SEA, LTD., AS A COMMERCIAL LABORATORY

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of accreditation of SEA, Ltd. as a commercial laboratory.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that SEA, Ltd. has been accredited to test certain wax and candle products under Chapter 34 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) for customs purposes for the next three years as of September 15, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The accreditation of SEA, Ltd., as a commercial laboratory became effective on September 15, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for September 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.12, that SEA, Ltd., 7001 Buffalo Parkway, Columbus, OH 43229, has been accredited to test certain wax and candle products under Chapter 34 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.12. SEA, Ltd. is accredited for the following laboratory analysis procedures and methods for certain wax and candle products set forth by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Laboratory Methods (CBPL):

CBPL No.	Title
34-07	Quantitation of Paraffin in Beeswax and Other Waxes by High Temperature Capillary Gas Chromatography.
34-14	Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Petroleum Wax in Candles by Capillary Gas Chromatography.
34-15	Qualitative Analysis of Wax and Gel Candles by Infrared Spectroscopy.
34-16	Quantitative Analysis of Petroleum Wax in Candles by Solid Phase Extraction Chromatography.

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct laboratory analyses should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific test requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific test this entity is accredited to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to CBPGaugersLabs@cbp.dhs.gov. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories.

<http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories>.

Dated: December 5, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
*Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.*

[Published in the Federal Register, December 15, 2016 (81 FR 90860)]

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**QUARTERLY IRS INTEREST RATES USED IN
CALCULATING INTEREST ON OVERDUE ACCOUNTS AND
REFUNDS ON CUSTOMS DUTIES**

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the quarterly Internal Revenue Service interest rates used to calculate interest on overdue accounts (underpayments) and refunds (overpayments) of customs duties will remain the same from the previous quarter. For the calendar quarter beginning October 1, 2016, the interest rates for overpayments will be 3 percent for corporations and 4 percent for non-corporations, and the interest rate for underpayments will be 4 percent for both corporations and non-corporations. This notice is published for the convenience of the importing public and U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kara N. Welty, Revenue Division, Collection and Refunds Branch, 6650 Telecom Drive, Suite #100, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278; telephone (317) 614-4614.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1505 and Treasury Decision 85-93, published in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 1985 (50 FR 21832), the interest rate paid on applicable overpayments or underpayments of customs duties must be in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621 and 6622. Section 6621 provides different interest rates applicable to overpayments: One for corporations and one for non-corporations.

The interest rates are based on the Federal short-term rate and determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on behalf of the Secretary of the Treasury on a quarterly basis. The rates effective for a quarter are determined during the first-month period of the previous quarter.

In Revenue Ruling 2016-23, the IRS determined the rates of interest for the calendar quarter beginning October 1, 2016, and ending on December 31, 2016. The interest rate paid to the Treasury for underpayments will be the Federal short-term rate (1%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of four percent (4%) for both corporations and non-corporations. For corporate overpayments, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (1%) plus two percentage points (2%) for a total of three percent (3%). For overpayments made by non-corporations, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (1%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of four percent (4%). These interest rates are subject to change for the calendar quarter beginning January 1, 2017, and ending March 31, 2017.

For the convenience of the importing public and U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel the following list of IRS interest rates used, covering the period from before July of 1974 to date, to calculate interest on overdue accounts and refunds of customs duties, is published in summary format.

Beginning date	Ending date	Under-payments (percent)	Over-payments (percent)	Corporate over-payments (eff. 1-1-99) (percent)
070174	063075	6	6	.....
070175	013176	9	9	.....
020176	013178	7	7	.....
020178	013180	6	6	.....
020180	013182	12	12	.....
020182	123182	20	20	.....
010183	063083	16	16	.....

Beginning date	Ending date	Under-payments (percent)	Over-payments (percent)	Corporate overpayments (eff. 1-1-99) (percent)
070183	123184	11	11	.....
010185	063085	13	13	.....
070185	123185	11	11	.....
010186	063086	10	10	.....
070186	123186	9	9	.....
010187	093087	9	8	.....
100187	123187	10	9	.....
010188	033188	11	10	.....
040188	093088	10	9	.....
100188	033189	11	10	.....
040189	093089	12	11	.....
100189	033191	11	10	.....
040191	123191	10	9	.....
010192	033192	9	8	.....
040192	093092	8	7	.....
100192	063094	7	6	.....
070194	093094	8	7	.....
100194	033195	9	8	.....
040195	063095	10	9	.....
070195	033196	9	8	.....
040196	063096	8	7	.....
070196	033198	9	8	.....
040198	123198	8	7	.....
010199	033199	7	7	6
040199	033100	8	8	7
040100	033101	9	9	8
040101	063001	8	8	7
070101	123101	7	7	6
010102	123102	6	6	5
010103	093003	5	5	4
100103	033104	4	4	3
040104	063004	5	5	4
070104	093004	4	4	3
100104	033105	5	5	4
040105	093005	6	6	5
100105	063006	7	7	6
070106	123107	8	8	7
010108	033108	7	7	6
040108	063008	6	6	5

Beginning date	Ending date	Under-payments (percent)	Over-payments (percent)	Corporate overpayments (eff. 1-1-99) (percent)
070108	093008	5	5	4
100108	123108	6	6	5
010109	033109	5	5	4
040109	123110	4	4	3
010111	033111	3	3	2
040111	093011	4	4	3
100111	033116	3	3	2
040116	123116	4	4	3

Dated: December 9, 2016.

R. GIL KERLIKOWSKA,
Commissioner.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 14, 2016 (81 FR 90370)]

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EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE AUTOMATED COMMERCIAL ENVIRONMENT (ACE) BECOMING THE SOLE CBP-AUTHORIZED ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE (EDI) SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING ELECTRONIC DRAWBACK AND DUTY DEFERRAL ENTRY AND ENTRY SUMMARY FILINGS

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: On August 30, 2016, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing plans to make the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) the sole electronic data interchange (EDI) system authorized by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for processing electronic drawback and duty deferral entry and entry summary filings. The changes announced in that notice were to have been effective on October 1, 2016. On October 3, 2016, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing that the effective date for the transition to ACE as the sole CBP-authorized EDI system for electronic drawback and duty deferral entry and entry summary filings would be delayed until further notice. This notice announces that the effective date for the transition will be January 14, 2017.

EFFECTIVE DATE: ACE will be the sole CBP-authorized EDI system for processing electronic drawback and duty deferral entry and entry summary filings, and ACS will no longer be a CBP-authorized EDI system for purposes of processing these filings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions related to this notice may be emailed to ASKACE@cbp.dhs.gov with the subject line identifier reading “ACS to ACE Drawback and Duty Deferral Entry and Entry Summary Filings transition”.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 30, 2016, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) published a notice in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 59644) announcing plans to make the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) the sole electronic data interchange (EDI) system authorized by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for processing electronic drawback and duty deferral entry and entry summary filings, effective on October 1, 2016. The document also announced that, on October 1, 2016, the Automated Commercial System (ACS) would no longer be a CBP-authorized EDI system for purposes of processing these electronic filings. Finally, the notice announced a name change for the ACE filing code for duty deferral and the creation of a new ACE filing code for all electronic drawback filings, replacing the six distinct drawback codes previously filed in ACS. On October 3, 2016, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 68023) announcing that the effective date for these changes would be delayed until further notice.

This notice announces that the new effective date for the transition will be January 14, 2017. At that time, ACE will become the sole CBP-authorized EDI system for electronic drawback and duty deferral entry and entry summary filings, and ACS will no longer be a CBP-authorized EDI system for purposes of processing these electronic filings.

Dated: December 7, 2016.

R. GIL KERLIKOWSKE,
Commissioner,
U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 12, 2016 (81 FR 89486)]

**MODIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL CUSTOMS
AUTOMATION PROGRAM TEST REGARDING
RECONCILIATION AND TRANSITION OF THE TEST FROM
THE AUTOMATED COMMERCIAL SYSTEM TO THE
AUTOMATED COMMERCIAL ENVIRONMENT**

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s (CBP’s) plan to modify the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test regarding reconciliation, and the transition of the test from the Automated Commercial System (ACS) to the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). The modifications made by this notice eliminate several requirements for participation in the test, impose new data requirements, and establish the requirement that reconciliation entries be filed in ACE beginning January 14, 2017, regardless of whether the underlying entry was filed in ACS or ACE. Except to the extent expressly announced or modified by this document, all aspects, rules, terms and conditions announced in previous notices regarding the reconciliation test remain in effect.

DATES: The changes made by this notice are effective January 14, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this test program may be submitted any time during the test via email, with a subject line identifier reading, “Comment on Reconciliation test”, to *OFO-RECONFOLDER@cbp.dhs.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Acenitha Kennedy, Entry Summary and Revenue Branch, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of Trade at (202) 863-6064 or *ACENITHA.KENNEDY@CBP.DHS.GOV*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

A. Reconciliation

The National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) was established by Subtitle B of Title VI—Customs Modernization in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Implementation Act (Customs Modernization Act) (Pub. L. 103-182, 107 Stat. 2057, 2170, December 8, 1993) (19 U.S.C. 1411). Through NCAP, the thrust of

customs modernization was on trade compliance and the development of the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), the planned successor to the Automated Commercial System (ACS) as the CBP-authorized electronic data interchange (EDI) system. ACE is an automated and electronic system for commercial trade processing which is intended to streamline business processes, facilitate growth in trade, ensure cargo security, and foster participation in global commerce, while ensuring compliance with U.S. laws and regulations and reducing costs for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and all of its communities of interest. The ability to meet these objectives depends on successfully modernizing CBP's business functions and the information technology that supports those functions. CBP's modernization efforts are accomplished through phased releases of ACE component functionality designed to replace specific legacy ACS functions and add new functionality. Section 637 of the Customs Modernization Act amended Section 484 of the Tariff Act of 1930 to establish a new section (b), entitled "Reconciliation", a planned component of the NCAP. (19 U.S.C. 1484(b)).

Reconciliation is the process that allows an importer, at the time an entry summary is filed, to identify indeterminable information (other than that affecting admissibility) to CBP and to provide that outstanding information at a later date. The importer identifies the outstanding information by means of an electronic "flag" which is placed on the entry summary at the time the entry summary is filed and payment (applicable duty, taxes, and fees) is made.

Section 101.9(b) of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR 101.9(b)) provides for the testing of NCAP components. *See* T.D. 95-21, 60 FR 14211 (March 16, 1995). This test is established pursuant to this regulation. The reconciliation program is currently being tested by CBP using the Automated Commercial System (ACS). CBP announced and explained the test in a general notice document published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 6257) on February 6, 1998. Clarifications and operational changes were announced in subsequent **Federal Register** notices: 63 FR 44303, published on August 18, 1998; 64 FR 39187, published on July 21, 1999; 64 FR 73121, published on December 29, 1999; 66 FR 14619, published on March 13, 2001; 67 FR 61200, published on September 27, 2002 (with a correction document published at 67 FR 68238 on November 8, 2002); 69 FR 53730, published on September 2, 2004; 70 FR 1730, published on January 10, 2005; 70 FR 46882, published on August 11, 2005; 71 FR 37596, published on June 30, 2006, 78 FR 27984, published on May 13, 2013; and 79 FR 34334 published June 16, 2014. A **Federal Register** (65 FR 55326) notice published on September 13, 2000, extended the prototype indefinitely.

The previously published **Federal Register** documents have set forth that the issues for which an entry summary may be “flagged” (for the purpose of later reconciliation) are limited and relate to: (1) Value issues other than claims based on latent manufacturing defects; (2) classification issues, on a limited basis; (3) issues concerning value aspects of entries filed under heading 9802, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) (9802 issues); and (4) issues concerning post-importation claims, under 19 U.S.C. 1520(d), for preferential tariff treatment for merchandise entered under the Acts implementing the North American Free Trade Agreement, the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement, the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement, the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement, the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement, the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, and the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement.

The flagged entry summary (the underlying entry summary) is liquidated by CBP for all aspects of the entry except those issues that were flagged. Upon liquidation of an underlying entry summary, any decision by CBP entering into that liquidation, *e.g.*, classification, may be protested pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1514. The means of providing the outstanding information flagged on the underlying entry summary to be reconciled is through the filing of a reconciliation entry. A reconciliation entry is treated as an entry for purposes of liquidation, reliquidation, and protest. When the outstanding information, *e.g.*, value as determined by the actual costs, is later furnished in the reconciliation entry CBP will liquidate the reconciliation entry as to the flagged issues. Any adjustments in duties, taxes, and/or fees owed will be made at that time. (*See* 63 FR 6257, February 6, 1998 for a more detailed presentation of the basic reconciliation process.) The liquidation of the reconciliation entry will be posted in the same manner and place as the notices of liquidation of other entries. Liquidation of a reconciliation entry may be protested pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1514, but the protest may only pertain to the issue(s) flagged for and contained in the reconciliation entry (*i.e.*, the protest may not address issues previously liquidated on the underlying entry summary).

CBP reminds test participants that the filing of a reconciliation entry, like the filing of a regular consumption entry, is governed by 19 U.S.C. 1484 and can be done only by an importer of record who is required to exercise reasonable care in filing the underlying entry summary, flagging issues for later reconciliation, and filing the reconciliation entry. Importers must also be aware of the distinction between prior disclosure and reconciliation. A prior disclosure exists when a person discloses the circumstances of a violation of 19 U.S.C.

1592 pursuant to CBP regulations. The person disclosing this information must do so before, or without knowledge of, the commencement of a formal investigation of that violation. Under reconciliation, the importer is not disclosing a violation, but rather identifying information which is indeterminable and will be provided at a later time when the reconciliation entry is filed.

B. Transition Into ACE

Over the last several years, CBP has tested ACE and provided significant public outreach to ensure that the trade community is fully aware of the transition from ACS to ACE. On October 13, 2015, CBP published an Interim Final Rule in the **Federal Register** (80 FR 61278) that designated ACE as a CBP-authorized EDI system. The designation of ACE as a CBP-authorized EDI system was effective November 1, 2015. In the Interim Final Rule, CBP stated that ACS would be phased out and anticipated that ACS would no longer be supported for entry and entry summary filing by the end of February 2016. Filers were encouraged to adjust their business practices so that they would be prepared when ACS was decommissioned.

CBP has developed a staggered transition strategy for decommissioning ACS. The first phase of the transition was announced in a **Federal Register** notice published on February 29, 2016 (81 FR 10264). The second phase was announced in a **Federal Register** notice published on May 16, 2016 (81 FR 30320). The third phase of the transition was announced in a **Federal Register** notice published on May 23, 2016 (81 FR 32339). Most recently, CBP announced in a **Federal Register** notice published on July 28, 2016 (81 FR 49685) that ACE is the sole CBP-authorized method for filing electronic protests. This notice announces a further transition from ACS to ACE as CBP is transitioning the reconciliation test from ACS to ACE. The changes made by this notice related to the application process for participation in this test, the flagging of underlying entries and the filing of reconciliation entries are effective January 14, 2017. Except to the extent expressly announced or modified by this document, all aspects, rules, terms, requirements, obligations and conditions announced in previous notices regarding the reconciliation test remain in effect.

II. Test Modifications and Transition Into ACE

This document announces numerous modifications to the reconciliation test and the transition of the test from ACS to the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). Each modification and the transition from ACS to ACE are discussed separately below. Except to the extent expressly announced or modified by this document, all aspects, rules, terms, requirements, obligations and conditions announced in

previous notices regarding the reconciliation test remain in effect. It should be noted that the changes made by this document related to the filing of reconciliation entries apply only to reconciliation entries filed in ACE; they do not apply to reconciliation entries filed in ACS.

A. Mandatory Use of ACE for Filing Reconciliation Entries

This document announces that beginning January 14, 2017, all reconciliation entries must be filed in ACE regardless of whether the underlying entry was filed in ACS or ACE and regardless of whether it is a replacement, substitution or follow-up to a reconciliation entry originally filed in ACS. As of January 14, 2017, ACS is decommissioned for the filing of reconciliation entries.

B. Elimination of Reconciliation Processing Ports

This document announces that CBP is eliminating the requirement that reconciliation entries be filed at specified reconciliation processing ports. Beginning on January 14, 2017, reconciliation entries may be filed in ACE at any CBP port. CBP reminds importers and customs brokers that the filing of a reconciliation entry is considered customs business under 19 U.S.C. 1641, which requires that a broker wishing to file a reconciliation entry have a district or national permit authorizing the broker to file the reconciliation entry at the port where the reconciliation entry is filed.

C. Application Process and Participation Preconditions

This document announces that, except for suspended parties wishing to be reinstated into the test, CBP is removing the requirement that interested importers apply to participate in this test. Beginning January 14, 2017, CBP is opening this test to all non-suspended importers without any need for interested importers to apply and be accepted into the test. The only importers who may not participate in this test, *i.e.*, not flag underlying entries for reconciliation, are those who have been suspended from participation. Any party suspended from the test will not be allowed to flag entries until the suspension period ends and the party applies for reinstatement and reinstatement is granted. Suspended importers are still required to file reconciliation entries timely during the suspension period for underlying entries flagged prior to the suspension becoming effective. Any party suspended from the test who wishes to be reinstated must submit an application to its assigned Center of Excellence and Expertise designee if it has one; otherwise the application should be submitted at the local CBP port. The application for reinstatement must address the reasons for the suspension and fully describe all corrective action

taken to address the grounds for suspension. CBP will respond to all applications for re-instatement but until and unless reinstatement is granted, the suspended importers may not participate in the test, *i.e.*, importers may not flag underlying entries for reconciliation.

Importers wishing to participate in the test are still required, as a precondition to participation, to have a continuous bond on file with CBP with the required reconciliation bond rider. An importer without the required reconciliation bond rider will be unable to flag underlying entries.

D. Elimination of Importer Requests That CBP Blanket Flag on Importer's Behalf

This document announces that CBP is streamlining the process for blanket flagging underlying entries for reconciliation. Prior to the changes announced herein, importers provided CBP a request asking that CBP input and apply a blanket flag to all underlying entries filed by the importer for a specific time period. Importers also identified the specific issue(s) for which they requested that CBP input and apply the requested blanket flag. This document announces that effective January 14, 2017, importers no longer will submit requests asking that CBP apply a blanket flag on their behalf. Instead, importers may input and apply a blanket flag themselves. Importers who use blanket flagging must continue to identify the issue(s) they are flagging.

E. Requests for Retroactive Flagging

This document announces that beginning January 14, 2017, all test participants may request that CBP retroactively flag underlying entries on their behalf. A request may be made by sending an email to OFO-RECONFOLDER@cbp.dhs.gov. The request must be made at least 60 days before the scheduled liquidation date of the underlying entry the importer wishes to have CBP flag retroactively. CBP's decision to grant or deny such a request is entirely discretionary and solely within CBP's province. CBP's decision is final and cannot be appealed. CBP will send an email to the importer or his agent when its request is approved or denied along with a list of the entry numbers which were flagged and a list of the entry numbers which were not flagged. It should be noted that CBP intends to grant these requests sparingly and only as a courtesy where appropriate.

F. Automation of the Reconciliation Entry Filing Process and Elimination of Spreadsheets

This document announces that reconciliation entries filed in ACE will be fully automated and all required data and information must be transmitted electronically on the reconciliation entry. Reconciliation entries must continue to be filed using the Automated Broker Interface (ABI). This document also announces that paper and compact disc spreadsheets will no longer be accepted as part of the filing of reconciliation entries. The data formerly contained in the associated files and spreadsheets, reduced as explained in section G below, will be transmitted electronically as part of the reconciliation entry.

G. Reduction of Information Requirements for Reconciliation Entries

This document announces that reconciliation entries with no changes to flagged entries must only report the flagged underlying entry numbers (no line item data) and must be filed as an aggregate reconciliation entry, *i.e.*, no entry-by-entry reconciliation entry will be allowed when there are no changes to declare. Reconciliation entries with changes to the flagged entry will no longer have to include original transaction values, or original duties, fees and taxes amounts declared in the flagged entry. As a result, reconciliation entries with changes will only have to report the newly determined transaction value and the newly reconciled duties, fees and taxes. Reconciliation entries claiming preferential tariff treatment pursuant to a free trade agreement post-importation claim must include electronic certifications of the statements and declarations required by regulation. Reconciliation entries reconciling classification issues must provide information indicating the protest, administrative ruling or court action which necessitates reconciling the classification of the underlying flagged entry. Reconciliation entries flagged only for a value change must indicate by checking a checkbox if the value change results in a classification change as well.

H. New Data Requirements

This document announces that reconciliation entry filers must check a checkbox indicating if a prior disclosure has been made on any of the flagged underlying entries. If no prior disclosure was made, the checkbox should not be checked. Additionally, the reconciliation entry line item data must include the line number of the underlying flagged entry being reconciled.

I. Elimination of Masterfile Extract and Liquidation Extract Reports

This document also announces that the Masterfile Extract and Liquidation Extract Reports that CBP provided upon request, for a fee, will be discontinued in both paper and diskette form as soon as that information is available in an ACE report CBP will be discontinuing the issuance of the Masterfile and Liquidation Extract reports because the information usually contained in these reports will be available free of charge in ACE reports for those parties having an ACE Portal Account. For information on ACE Portal Accounts please see CBP's general notice published in the **Federal Register** on October 21, 2015 (80 FR 63817). ACE Portal Accounts allow the trade community to run reports, as needed, to access their customs data. CBP will provide notice that the information is available on an ACE report by announcing it on the ACE reports home page and through the issuance of a message made on the Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS). CBP recommends that trade members subscribe to CSMS to receive email notifications from CBP regarding ACE reports and other important information. For information about subscribing to CSMS, please go to: http://apps.cbp.gov/csms/csms.asp?display_page=1.

III. Development of ACE Prototypes

A chronological listing of **Federal Register** publications detailing ACE test developments is set forth below.

- ACE Portal Accounts and Subsequent Revision Notices: 67 FR 21800 (May 1, 2002); 69 FR 5360 and 69 FR 5362 (February 4, 2004); 69 FR 54302 (September 8, 2004); 70 FR 5199 (February 1, 2005).
- ACE System of Records Notice: 71 FR 3109 (January 19, 2006).
- Terms/Conditions for Access to the ACE Portal and Subsequent Revisions: 72 FR 27632 (May 16, 2007); 73 FR 38464 (July 7, 2008).
- ACE Non-Portal Accounts and Related Notice: 70 FR 61466 (October 24, 2005); 71 FR 15756 (March 29, 2006).
- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR I) Capabilities: 72 FR 59105 (October 18, 2007).
- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR II) Capabilities: 73 FR 50337 (August 26, 2008); 74 FR 9826 (March 6, 2009).
- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR III) Capabilities: 74 FR 69129 (December 30, 2009).

- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR IV) Capabilities: 76 FR 37136 (June 24, 2011).
- Post-Entry Amendment (PEA) Processing Test: 76 FR 37136 (June 24, 2011).
- ACE Announcement of a New Start Date for the National Customs Automation Program Test of Automated Manifest Capabilities for Ocean and Rail Carriers: 76 FR 42721 (July 19, 2011).
- ACE Simplified Entry: 76 FR 69755 (November 9, 2011).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS): 77 FR 20835 (April 6, 2012).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Simplified Entry: Modification of Participant Selection Criteria and Application Process: 77 FR 48527 (August 14, 2012).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Regarding Reconciliation for Filing Certain Post-Importation Preferential Tariff Treatment Claims under Certain FTAs: 78 FR 27984 (May 13, 2013).
- Modification of Two National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS) and Simplified Entry (SE): 78 FR 44142 (July 23, 2013).
- Modification of Two National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS) and Simplified Entry (SE); Correction: 78 FR 53466 (August 29, 2013).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release (formerly known as Simplified Entry): 78 FR 66039 (November 4, 2013).
- Post-Summary Corrections to Entry Summaries Filed in ACE Pursuant to the ESAR IV Test: Modifications and Clarifications: 78 FR 69434 (November 19, 2013).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food Safety and Inspection

Service Using the Partner Government Agency Message Set Through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 78 FR 75931 (December 13, 2013).

- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release for Ocean and Rail Carriers: 79 FR 6210 (February 3, 2014).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release to Allow Importers and Brokers to Certify From ACE Entry Summary: 79 FR 24744 (May 1, 2014).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release for Truck Carriers: 79 FR 25142 (May 2, 2014).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System: 79 FR 36083 (June 25, 2014).
- Announcement of eBond Test: 79 FR 70881 (November 28, 2014).
- eBond Test Modifications and Clarifications: Continuous Bond Executed Prior to or Outside the eBond Test May Be Converted to an eBond by the Surety and Principal, Termination of an eBond by Filing Identification Number, and Email Address Correction: 80 FR 899 (January 7, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System Relating to Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Document Submissions: 80 FR 5126 (January 30, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the use of Partner Government Agency Message Set through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) for the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): 80 FR 6098 (February 4, 2015).
- Announcement of Modification of ACE Cargo Release Test to Permit the Combined Filing of Cargo Release and Importer Security Filing (ISF) Data: 80 FR 7487 (February 10, 2015).

- Modification of NCAP Test Concerning ACE Cargo Release for Type 03 Entries and Advanced Capabilities for Truck Carriers: 80 FR 16414 (March 27, 2015).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Air Cargo Test: 80 FR 39790 (July 10, 2015).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Concerning Remote Location Filing Entry Procedures in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) and the Use of the Document Image System for the Submission of Invoices and the Use of eBonds for the Transmission of Single Transaction Bonds: 80 FR 40079 (July 13, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Partner Government Agency (PGA) Message Set Regarding Types of Transportation Modes and Certain Data Required by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA): 80 FR 47938 (August 10, 2015).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Vessel Cargo Test: 80 FR 50644 (August 20, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Using the Partner Government Agency Message Set through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 80 FR 52051 (August 27, 2015).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Rail Cargo Test: 80 FR 54305 (September 9, 2015).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS) Regarding Future Updates and New Method of Submission of Accepted Documents: 80 FR 62082 (October 15, 2015).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release for Entry Type 52 and Certain Other Modes of Transportation: 80 FR 63576 (October 20, 2015).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR)

Test of Automated Entry Summary Types 51 and 52 and Certain Modes of Transportation: 80 FR 63815 (October 21, 2015).

- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment Portal Account to Establish the Exporter Portal Account: 80 FR 63817 (October 21, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment Partner Government Agency Message Set Regarding the Toxic Substances Control Act Certification Required by the Environmental Protection Agency: 81 FR 7133 (February 10, 2016).
- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) as the Sole CBP-Authorized Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) System for Processing Certain Electronic Entry and Entry Summary Filings: 81 FR 10264 (February 29, 2016).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP); Test Concerning the Partner Government Agency Message Set for Certain Data Required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): 81 FR 13399 (March 14, 2016).
- Cessation of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Using the Partner Government Agency (PGA) Message Set Through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 81 FR 18634 (March 31, 2016).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE); Announcement of National Customs Automation Program Test of the In-Transit Manifest Pilot Program: 81 FR 24837 (April 27, 2016).
- Announcement of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) of Certain Import Data and Documents Required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: 81 FR 27149 (May 5, 2016).
- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) as the Sole CBP-Authorized Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) System for Processing Certain Electronic Entry and Entry Summary Filings Accompanied by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Data: 81 FR 30320 (May 16, 2016).
- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) as the Sole CBP-Authorized Electronic Data Interchange

(EDI) System for Processing Electronic Entry and Entry Summary Filings: 81 FR 32339 (May 23, 2016).

- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Protest Module as the Sole CBP-Authorized Method for Filing Electronic Protests: 81 FR 49685 (July 28, 2016).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Portal Accounts to Establish the Protest Filer Account and Clarification that the Terms and Conditions for Account Access Apply to all ACE Portal Accounts: 81 FR 52453 (August 8, 2016).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Electronic Filing of Protests in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 81 FR 53497 (August 12, 2016).

Dated: December 7, 2016.

BRENDA B. SMITH,
*Executive Assistant Commissioner,
Office of Trade.*

[Published in the Federal Register, December 12, 2016 (81 FR 89486)]



MODIFICATION AND CLARIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL CUSTOMS AUTOMATION PROGRAM TESTS REGARDING POST-SUMMARY CORRECTIONS AND PERIODIC MONTHLY STATEMENTS

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP's) plan to modify and clarify the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test pertaining to the processing of post-summary correction (PSC) claims to entry summaries that are filed in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), as well as the periodic monthly statement (PMS) test. The modifications made by this notice eliminate some requirements and liberalize certain requirements needed for the filing of a PSC making it easier for importers to file a PSC for additional entry types, and allowing for additional time to make a deposit for duties, fees and taxes owed. With regard to the PMS test program, this notice announces the time at which CBP considers a PMS as paid when filers use the Automated

Clearing House (ACH) debit process. Except to the extent expressly announced or modified by this document, all aspects, rules, terms and conditions announced in previous notices regarding the tests remain in effect.

DATES: The changes made by this notice are effective January 14, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning these test programs may be submitted via email to Monica Crockett at *ESARinfoinbox@dhs.gov* with a subject line identifier reading, “Post-Summary Corrections Processing.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For policy-related questions, contact John Everett via email at *otentrysummary@cbp.dhs.gov*. For technical questions related to ABI transmissions, contact your assigned client representative. Interested parties without an assigned client representative should direct their questions to the Client Representative Branch at (703) 650–3500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Post-Summary Correction (PSC) and Periodic Monthly Statement (PMS) Test Programs

The National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) was established by Subtitle B of Title VI—Customs Modernization in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Implementation Act (Customs Modernization Act) (Pub. L. 103–182, 107 Stat. 2057, 2170, December 8, 1993) (19 U.S.C. 1411). Through NCAP, the thrust of customs modernization was on trade compliance and the development of the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), the planned successor to the Automated Commercial System (ACS) as the CBP-authorized electronic data interchange (EDI) system. ACE is an automated and electronic system for commercial trade processing which is intended to streamline business processes, facilitate growth in trade, ensure cargo security, and foster participation in global commerce, while ensuring compliance with U.S. laws and regulations and reducing costs for CBP and all of its communities of interest. The ability to meet these objectives depends on successfully modernizing CBP’s business functions and the information technology that supports those functions. CBP’s modernization efforts are accomplished through phased releases of ACE component functionality designed to

replace specific legacy ACS functions and add new functionality. Section 101.9(b) of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR 101.9(b)) provides for the testing of NCAP components. *See* T.D. 95–21, 60 FR 14211 (March 16, 1995). A list of ACE tests is provided in Section III below.

1. PSC Test Program

On June 24, 2011, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 37136) that announced a plan to conduct an NCAP test concerning new ACE capabilities which allow importers to file a PSC for certain entry summaries using the Automated Broker Interface (ABI). Importers and other brokers are also allowed to use ABI to file a PSC to those pre-liquidation ACE entry summaries that were accepted by CBP, fully paid, and under CBP control. On November 19, 2013, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** modifying and clarifying the terms and conditions of the PSC test. *See* 78 FR 69434.

2. PMS Test Program

On February 4, 2004, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 5362) that announced a plan to conduct an NCAP test concerning PMS which allows importers to deposit estimated duties, fees and taxes on a monthly basis. CBP modified and clarified the PMS test in seven subsequent **Federal Register** notices published on: September 8, 2004 (69 FR 54302); February 1, 2005 (70 FR 5199); August 8, 2005 (70 FR 45736); September 22, 2005 (70 FR 55623); January 20, 2006 (71 FR 3315); June 2, 2006 (71 FR 32114); and October 17, 2008 (73 FR 61891).

II. Test Modifications and Clarifications

This document announces numerous modifications and clarifications to the PSC and PMS tests. Each modification and clarification is discussed separately below. Except to the extent expressly announced or modified by this document, all aspects, rules, terms, requirements, obligations and conditions announced in previous notices regarding the PSC and PMS tests remain in effect.

A. Modifications and Clarifications of the PSC Test

1. Expansion of Entry Types

This document announces that CBP is expanding the type of entries that may be corrected by filing a PSC, in addition to the current entry types 01 (Consumption—Free and Dutiable) and 03 (Consumption—Antidumping/Countervailing Duty). The additional entry types are as follows:

- 02—Consumption—Quota/Visa
- 06—Consumption—Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)
- 07—Consumption—Antidumping/Countervailing Duty and Quota/Visa Combination
- 21—Warehouse
- 22—Re-Warehouse
- 23—Temporary Importation Bond (TIB)
- 31—Warehouse Withdrawal—Consumption
- 32—Warehouse Withdrawal—Quota
- 34—Warehouse Withdrawal—Antidumping/Countervailing Duty
- 38—Warehouse Withdrawal—Antidumping/Countervailing Duty & Quota/Visa Combination
- 51—Defense Contract Administration Service Region (DCASR)
- 52—Government—Dutiable

2. Merchandise Subject to Quota

When filing a PSC for an entry of merchandise subject to quota, the date and time of submission will be considered the date and time of presentation of the merchandise to CBP. If a PSC is filed on an entry with merchandise subject to quota, and the quota is full or nearly full at threshold, the PSC filer must do two things. The filer must follow the Entry Summary Business Rules and Process Document on *www.CBP.gov* and also, within 24 hours of making the correction, contact Headquarters Quota Branch: (202) 863- 6560 (public phone number), email address: *HQQuota@cbp.dhs.gov*, regardless of whether the correction concerns merchandise subject to quota.

3. Deposit of Duties, Fees and Taxes With PSC Showing Increase in Liability

This document announces that if a PSC is filed that increases the importer's liability for duties, fees or taxes, the importer must deposit those additional duties, fees and taxes within three business days of submitting the PSC. No additional PSCs can be filed until those duties, fees and taxes are deposited.

4. Change of Entry Type When Antidumping and/or Countervailing Duties Are Involved

Previously, a filer under the PSC test could not change a type 03 entry to a type 01 entry. *See* 76 FR 37136. This document announces that a PSC may declare that a previously filed entry which stated that merchandise covered by that entry was subject to antidumping and/or countervailing duties is not, in fact, subject to such duties. For instance, a PSC may declare that a previously filed 03 entry type is corrected to indicate it is a 01 entry type.

5. Elimination of CBP's Policy of Rejecting a PSC When There Is No Deposit of Antidumping and/or Countervailing Duties at Time of Submission of PSC

This notice announces a change in CBP policy which will allow an importer to deposit new or additional antidumping and/or countervailing duties within three business days of submitting the PSC. However, no additional PSCs can be filed until the duties are deposited. Previously, when a PSC declared that an entry was corrected to indicate it was subject to antidumping and/or countervailing duties, or a greater amount of antidumping and/or countervailing duties was owed, and those duties were not deposited at the time of submitting the PSC, CBP would reject the PSC.

6. No Filing of PSC To Make a Post-Importation Claim Under 19 U.S.C. 1520(d)

On June 24, 2011, CBP announced in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 37136) that one of the data elements that may not be modified via a PSC is the NAFTA indicator. This notice clarifies that such prohibition applies not only to a post-importation NAFTA claim under 19 U.S.C. 1520(d), but also to a claim made under other free trade agreements covered by 19 U.S.C. 1520(d).

7. PSC Submission Within the Time Limitations Authorized by This Test

On November 19, 2013, CBP published a notice in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 69434) that stated that a PSC cannot be filed when any merchandise covered by the original entry has been conditionally released and its right to admission has not been determined. This restriction was overly broad and prevented importers from filing a PSC because all goods are conditionally released and their admissibility is not legally determined until liquidation. This notice announces that this restriction does not prevent the filing of a PSC within the time periods allowed as long as all other requirements and limitations are met. The time limits authorized by this test are set

forth in notices published in the **Federal Register** on June 24, 2011 (76 FR 37136) and November 19, 2013 (78 FR 69434). This clarification is in line with current practice.

B. Modification to the PMS Test

This notice announces that CBP will consider a PMS as paid, in the event the importer uses the Automated Clearing House (ACH) debit process, when CBP receives confirmation from the Treasury Department that funds are available and transferred to CBP from the financial institution designated by the importer for payment of the ACH debit authorization. Prior to this modification, CBP considered a PMS as paid when CBP transmitted the debit authorization to the designated financial institution. *See* 69 FR 5362 (February 4, 2004). This change will result in a delay of approximately two working days in the time that CBP uses to consider a PMS as paid. It is important to note that this modification applies only to importers who participate in the test program. For all other importers, the current regulation, 19 CFR 24.25(c)(4), still applies which means CBP will consider a statement as paid upon acceptance of the ACH debit authorization.

III. Development of ACE Prototypes

A chronological listing of **Federal Register** publications detailing ACE test developments is set forth below.

- ACE Portal Accounts and Subsequent Revision Notices: 67 FR 21800 (May 1, 2002); 69 FR 5360 and 69 FR 5362 (February 4, 2004); 69 FR 54302 (September 8, 2004); 70 FR 5199 (February 1, 2005).
- ACE System of Records Notice: 71 FR 3109 (January 19, 2006).
- Terms/Conditions for Access to the ACE Portal and Subsequent Revisions: 72 FR 27632 (May 16, 2007); 73 FR 38464 (July 7, 2008).
- ACE Non-Portal Accounts and Related Notice: 70 FR 61466 (October 24, 2005); 71 FR 15756 (March 29, 2006).
- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR I) Capabilities: 72 FR 59105 (October 18, 2007).
- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR II) Capabilities: 73 FR 50337 (August 26, 2008); 74 FR 9826 (March 6, 2009).

- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR III) Capabilities: 74 FR 69129 (December 30, 2009).
- ACE Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR IV) Capabilities: 76 FR 37136 (June 24, 2011).
- Post-Entry Amendment (PEA) Processing Test: 76 FR 37136 (June 24, 2011).
- ACE Announcement of a New Start Date for the National Customs Automation Program Test of Automated Manifest Capabilities for Ocean and Rail Carriers: 76 FR 42721 (July 19, 2011).
- ACE Simplified Entry: 76 FR 69755 (November 9, 2011).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS): 77 FR 20835 (April 6, 2012).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Simplified Entry: Modification of Participant Selection Criteria and Application Process: 77 FR 48527 (August 14, 2012).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Regarding Reconciliation for Filing Certain Post-Importation Preferential Tariff Treatment Claims under Certain FTAs: 78 FR 27984 (May 13, 2013).
- Modification of Two National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS) and Simplified Entry (SE): 78 FR 44142 (July 23, 2013).
- Modification of Two National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Tests Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS) and Simplified Entry (SE); Correction: 78 FR 53466 (August 29, 2013).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release (formerly known as Simplified Entry): 78 FR 66039 (November 4, 2013).
- Post-Summary Corrections to Entry Summaries Filed in ACE Pursuant to the ESAR IV Test: Modifications and Clarifications: 78 FR 69434 (November 19, 2013).

- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food Safety and Inspection Service Using the Partner Government Agency Message Set Through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 78 FR 75931 (December 13, 2013).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release for Ocean and Rail Carriers: 79 FR 6210 (February 3, 2014).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release to Allow Importers and Brokers to Certify From ACE Entry Summary: 79 FR 24744 (May 1, 2014).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release for Truck Carriers: 79 FR 25142 (May 2, 2014).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System: 79 FR 36083 (June 25, 2014).
- Announcement of eBond Test: 79 FR 70881 (November 28, 2014).
- eBond Test Modifications and Clarifications: Continuous Bond Executed Prior to or Outside the eBond Test May Be Converted to an eBond by the Surety and Principal, Termination of an eBond by Filing Identification Number, and Email Address Correction: 80 FR 899 (January 7, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System Relating to Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Document Submissions: 80 FR 5126 (January 30, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the use of Partner Government Agency Message Set through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) for the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): 80 FR 6098 (February 4, 2015).
- Announcement of Modification of ACE Cargo Release Test to Permit the Combined Filing of Cargo Release and Importer Security Filing (ISF) Data: 80 FR 7487 (February 10, 2015).

- Modification of NCAP Test Concerning ACE Cargo Release for Type 03 Entries and Advanced Capabilities for Truck Carriers: 80 FR 16414 (March 27, 2015).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Air Cargo Test: 80 FR 39790 (July 10, 2015).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Concerning Remote Location Filing Entry Procedures in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) and the Use of the Document Image System for the Submission of Invoices and the Use of eBonds for the Transmission of Single Transaction Bonds: 80 FR 40079 (July 13, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Partner Government Agency (PGA) Message Set Regarding Types of Transportation Modes and Certain Data Required by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA): 80 FR 47938 (August 10, 2015).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Vessel Cargo Test: 80 FR 50644 (August 20, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Using the Partner Government Agency Message Set through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 80 FR 52051 (August 27, 2015).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Rail Cargo Test: 80 FR 54305 (September 9, 2015).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Document Image System (DIS) Regarding Future Updates and New Method of Submission of Accepted Documents: 80 FR 62082 (October 15, 2015).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Cargo Release for Entry Type 52 and Certain Other Modes of Transportation: 80 FR 63576 (October 20, 2015).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue (ESAR)

Test of Automated Entry Summary Types 51 and 52 and Certain Modes of Transportation: 80 FR 63815 (October 21, 2015).

- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment Portal Account to Establish the Exporter Portal Account: 80 FR 63817 (October 21, 2015).
- Modification of National Customs Automation Program Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment Partner Government Agency Message Set Regarding the Toxic Substances Control Act Certification Required by the Environmental Protection Agency: 81 FR 7133 (February 10, 2016).
- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) as the Sole CBP-Authorized Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) System for Processing Certain Electronic Entry and Entry Summary Filings: 81 FR 10264 (February 29, 2016).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP); Test Concerning the Partner Government Agency Message Set for Certain Data Required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): 81 FR 13399 (March 14, 2016).
- Cessation of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission of Certain Data Required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Using the Partner Government Agency (PGA) Message Set Through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 81 FR 18634 (March 31, 2016).
- Automated Commercial Environment (ACE); Announcement of National Customs Automation Program Test of the In-Transit Manifest Pilot Program: 81 FR 24837 (April 27, 2016).
- Announcement of National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Submission through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) of Certain Import Data and Documents Required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: 81 FR 27149 (May 5, 2016).
- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) as the Sole CBP-Authorized Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) System for Processing Certain Electronic Entry and Entry Summary Filings Accompanied by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Data: 81 FR 30320 (May 16, 2016).
- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) as the Sole CBP-Authorized Electronic Data Interchange

(EDI) System for Processing Electronic Entry and Entry Summary Filings: 81 FR 32339 (May 23, 2016).

- Notice Announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Protest Module as the Sole CBP-Authorized Method for Filing Electronic Protests: 81 FR 49685 (July 28, 2016).
- Modification of the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Portal Accounts to Establish the Protest Filer Account and Clarification that the Terms and Conditions for Account Access Apply to all ACE Portal Accounts: 81 FR 52453 (August 8, 2016).
- National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) Test Concerning Electronic Filing of Protests in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): 81 FR 53497 (August 12, 2016).

Dated: December 7, 2016.

BRENDA B. SMITH,
*Executive Assistant Commissioner,
Office of Trade.*

[Published in the Federal Register, December 12, 2016 (81 FR 89482)]



APPROVAL OF PETROSPECT, INC., AS A COMMERCIAL GAUGER

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of approval of Petrospect, Inc. as a commercial gauger.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that Petrospect, Inc. has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of June 10, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The approval of Petrospect, Inc. as commercial gauger became effective on June 10, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for June 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.13, that Petrospect, Inc., 499 N. Nimitz Highway, Pier 21, Honolulu, HI 96817, has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.13. Petrospect, Inc. is approved for the following gauging procedures for petroleum and certain petroleum products from the American Petroleum Institute (API):

API chapters	Title
3	Tank Gauging.
7	Temperature Determination.
8	Sampling.
11	Physical Properties Data.
12	Calculations.
17	Maritime Measurement.

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific gauger service this entity is approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to *CBPGaugersLabs@cbp.dhs.gov*. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories. <http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories>.

Dated: November 30, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 8, 2016 (81 FR 88694)]

**ACCREDITATION AND APPROVAL OF SAYBOLT LP AS A
 COMMERCIAL GAUGER AND LABORATORY**

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of accreditation and approval of Saybolt LP as a commercial gauger and laboratory.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that Saybolt LP has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products and accredited to test petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of April 27, 2016.

DATES: The accreditation and approval of Saybolt LP as commercial gauger and laboratory became effective on April 27, 2016. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for April 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Approved Gauger and Accredited Laboratories Manager, Laboratories and Scientific Services Directorate, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, tel. 202-344-1060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to 19 CFR 151.12 and 19 CFR 151.13, that Saybolt LP, 1200 Lebanon Rd., Suite 220, West Mifflin, PA 15122, has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products and accredited to test petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.12 and 19 CFR 151.13. Saybolt LP is approved for the following gauging procedures for petroleum and certain petroleum products from the American Petroleum Institute (API):

API chapters	Title
3	Tank Gauging.
7	Temperature Determination.
8	Sampling.
9	Density Determinations.
12	Calculations.
17	Maritime Measurement.

Saybolt LP is accredited for the following laboratory analysis procedures and methods for petroleum and certain petroleum products set forth by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Laboratory Methods (CBPL) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):

CBPL No.	ASTM	Title
27-08	D86	Standard Test Method for Distillation of Petroleum Products.
27-13	D4294	Standard Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum and Petroleum Products by Energy-Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry.

Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct laboratory analyses and gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited or approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific test or gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific test or gauger service this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to *CBPGaugersLabs@cbp.dhs.gov*. Please reference the Web site listed below for a complete listing of CBP approved gaugers and accredited laboratories.

http://www.cbp.gov/about/labs-scientific/commercial-gaugers-and-laboratories

Dated: December 2, 2016.

IRA S. REESE,
Executive Director,
Laboratories and Scientific Services
Directorate.

[Published in the Federal Register, December 9, 2016 (81 FR 89127)]