

small businesses to the various processes associated with participating in EC/EDI. The SBA is exploring the possibility of soliciting proposals from interested offerors at a later date. However, at this time, no decision has been made on proceeding with a procurement action.

Background

The mission of the SBA's Office of Government Contracting is to advocate, facilitate and create an environment conducive to the maximum practicable participation by small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned businesses in Federal procurement. This includes awards made by the U.S. Government and subcontracts awarded by its large prime contractors. The direction of Federal procurement policy was substantially altered by a 1993 memorandum from the President directing the heads of departments and agencies to re-engineer the procurement process by developing and implementing a system for Federal EC/EDI. The Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act (FASA) of 1994 dubbed the resulting systems architecture as FACNET, and established the initial statutory framework necessary to transition Federal purchasing activities to EC/EDI. Consistent with the provisions of the President's memorandum, electronic purchasing initially focused on the millions of requirements filled using simplified acquisition procedures, the ceiling for which was raised by FASA to a maximum of \$100K for FACNET-certified purchasing activities. Simplified acquisitions, which are reserved primarily for small businesses, have been conducted increasingly via FACNET.

A major component of the current FACNET systems architecture is its Centralized Contractor Registration (CCR) data base. The purposes of the FACNET CCR include: (1) Eliminating redundancy by standardizing the contractor registration procedure across the Government; and (2) providing a common data base for compiling and sharing trading partner information. The concept for which the SBA is seeking comments is rooted in the critical need for increased contractor participation in EC/EDI. The concept is centered around the identification, pricing and delivery of value added services (VAS) to small businesses by a single provider.

Purpose

The purpose of this request for comments is to solicit information, observations and suggestions on the feasibility and nature of establishing

and supporting a VAS provider with a vehicle that would:

1. Offer lower introductory VAS prices to small businesses for a period not to exceed one year so that small businesses would be encouraged to participate in EC/EDI, and, based on that exposure, make informed decisions about continued participation.
2. Provide those SBA offices who are actively involved in EC/EDI outreach and counseling, with an established source of affordable VAS to which small businesses could be directed.
3. Dramatically increase the population of firms centrally registered for FACNET.

General Specifications: Any Value Added Network (VAN) services provided by the established source would be provided through a VAN certified by the Defense Information Services Agency Contracting Office (DITCO), and such VAN services would be provided in accordance with the VAN licensing agreement signed by the VAN and DITCO. Additionally, the established VAS provider would ensure that each small business recruited pursuant to any agreement is successfully registered on the CCR and certified for FACNET transactions.

SBA's Role in Outreach: SBA would distribute information on the services and pricing of the established VAS to the Agency's Regional and District Offices, Business Information Centers (BICs), Government Contracting Area Directors, Procurement Center Representatives, Women's Demonstration Project Sites, Small Business Development Centers, Management and Technical Assistance Providers, One-Stop Capital Shops, Small Business Utilization Staffs, and other entities involved in promoting or assisting in small business development.

The following individual is designated as the point of contact for responses which must be submitted in writing before the close of business on June 21, 1996. Submission of comments by mail, FAX or INTERNET E-mail is acceptable: Oliver H. Snyder III, 409 3rd Street SW, Office Code-6254, Washington, D.C. 20416. Phone Number: 202-205-7650. FAX Number: 202-205-7324. Internet Address: ohs@pa.sba.gov.

Judith A. Roussel

Associate Administrator, for Government Contracting.

[FR Doc. 96-12331 Filed 5-15-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2385]

Advisory Committee on International Law; Notice of Meeting

A meeting of the Advisory Committee on International Law will take place on Tuesday, June 11, 1996, from 2:00 to approximately 5:00 p.m., as necessary in Room 1406 of the U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC. The meeting will be chaired by the Legal Adviser of the Department of State, Conrad K. Harper, and will be open to the public up to the capacity of the meeting room. The meeting will focus on a review of current International Court of Justice litigation, International Court of Justice and International Law Commission elections during 1996, and other current developments.

Entry to the building is controlled and will be facilitated by advance arrangements. Members of the public desiring access to the session should, by Friday, June 7, 1996 notify the Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser for United Nations Affairs (telephone (202) 647-2767) of their name, Social Security number, date of birth, professional affiliation, address and telephone number in order to arrange admittance. The above includes government and non-government attendees. All attendees must use the "C" Street entrance. One of the following valid IDs will be required for admittance: Any U.S. driver's license with photo, a passport, or a U.S. Government agency ID.

Dated: May 6, 1996.

John R. Crook,

Assistant Legal Adviser for United Nations Affairs; Executive Director, Advisory Committee on International Law.

[FR Doc. 96-12248 Filed 5-15-96; 8:45 am]

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[Public Notice No. 2387]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution; Notice of Meeting

The Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution (SPMP), a subcommittee of the Shipping Coordinating Committee, will conduct an open meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 1996, at 9:30 am in Room 2415 of the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC.

The purpose of this meeting will be to review the agenda items to be considered at the thirty-eighth session of the Marine Environment Protection

Committee (MEPC 38) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to be held from July 1–10, 1996. Proposed U.S. position on the agenda items for MEPC 38 will be discussed.

The major items for discussion will be the following:

1. Development of a draft International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78), Annex VI (Air Pollution) regulations.
2. Work relating to the Human Element.
3. Unwanted aquatic organisms in ballast water.
4. Implementation of the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation (OPRC).
5. Follow-up action to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).
6. Harmful effects of the use of antifouling paints for ships.
7. Development of a "Manual on Disposal of Ships Waste".

Members of the public may attend these meetings up to the seating capacity of the room.

For further information or documentation pertaining to the SPMP meeting, contact Lieutenant Commander Ray Perry, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters (G–MOS–4), 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001, Telephone: (202) 267–2714.

Dated: May 8, 1996.

Charles A. Mast,
Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee.
[FR Doc. 96–12325 Filed 5–15–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–07–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements

AGENCY: Department of Transportation (DOT), United States Coast Guard.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces five Information Collections Requests (ICR) are coming up for renewal. These ICRs are: Collection of Marine Casualty Information (Forms CG–2692/2692A), Chemical Drug and Alcohol Testing Information (Form CG–2692B), and Management Information System Reports [ICR No. 2115–0003], Application and Permit to Handle Hazardous Materials [ICR No. 2115–0013], Welding and Hot Work Permit

[2115–0054], Plan Review for Facilities With Vapor Control System [ICR No. 2115–0581], Ships' Stores Certification for Hazardous Materials Aboard Ships [ICR No. 2115–0139]. Before submitting renewal packages to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), USCG is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collections as described below.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit comments on or before July 11, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments identified by ICR No. by mail to Barbara Davis, 2100 Second Street, SW.; G–SII; Washington, DC 20593, Telephone number (202) 267–2326. Requests for a copy of the information collection should be directed to Barbara Davis, 2100 Second Street, SW.; G–SII; Washington, DC 20593.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Davis, 2100 Second Street, SW.; G–SII; Washington, DC 20593, Telephone number (202) 267–2326.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3507 of Title 44 of the United States Code, as adopted by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, requires that agencies prepare a notice for publication in the Federal Register, listing those information collection requests for approval or renewal under that Act. OMB reviews and approves agency submissions in accordance with criteria set forth in that Act. This notice identifies five information collections of the United States Coast Guard that are coming up for renewal for a term of three years.

The following information is provided for each information collection: (1) Title of information collection; (2) OMB Control Number; (3) Affected Entities, (4) Abstract of the information collection activity, including the need for and use of the collection; (5) estimate of total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden; and frequency of collection.

Title: Collection of Marine Casualty Information (Forms CG–2692/2692A), Chemical Drug and Alcohol Testing Information (Form CG–2692B), and Management Information System Reports.

OMB No: 2115–0003.

Affected Entities: Commercial Marine Industry.

Abstract: Marine casualty information is necessary for informing Coast Guard of commercial vessel casualties involving death, vessel damage, etc., as mandated by Congress. Chemical retesting information is necessary to improve Coast Guard detection/reduction of drug use by mariners.

Relative test result information must be sent to Coast Guard to evaluate program effectiveness.

Under Title 46 U.S.C. 7503, Coast Guard has authority to deny the issuance of licenses, certificates of registry and merchant Mariner's documents to users of dangerous drugs.

Coast Guard will use this information to: (a) Determine if certain applicants are qualified to be issued seaman's papers, (b) initiate administrative action against a commercial mariner's right to continue holding seaman's papers, initiate civil or criminal penalty action when an individual has been found to be operating a vessel while intoxicated, and (d) to assess the impact of drug or alcohol use in serious marine accidents.

Burden Estimate and Frequency: The current total annual respondent burden estimate is 33,878 hours. The average burden hour per response is 54 minutes reporting and 24 minutes recordkeeping. The frequency of reporting and recordkeeping will be on occasion.

Title: Application and Permit to Handle Hazardous Materials.

OMB No: 2115–0013.

Affected Entities: Shipping agents and terminal operators.

Abstract: This requirement ensures the safe handling of explosives and other hazardous materials in port areas and on board vessels. Shipping agents and terminal operators who handle the above commodities must comply.

This information is a requirement stated under the Ports and Waterways Safety Act, 33 U.S.C. 1225, the Coast Guard has authority to establish procedures and standards for handling of hazardous material on vessels and waterfront facilities.

This information will be used to determine if safe practices are being followed in the stowage and handling of explosives and hazardous materials.

Burden Estimate and Frequency: The current total annual respondent burden estimate is 814 hours. The average burden hour per response is 1 hour reporting. The frequency of recordkeeping will be annually.

Title: Welding and Hot Work Permit.

OMB No: 2115–0054.

Affected Entities: Owners/operators of vessels and waterfront facilities.

Abstract: This information is used by the Coast Guard to ensure compliance with safety regulations. This allows the use of welding or other "hot-work" equipment on a designated waterfront facility.

Under Title 33 CFR 126.15(c), 33 CFR 127.617, 33 CFR 154.735(k)(1) and 49 CFR 176, Coast Guard has the authority