

e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Comments are to be submitted to the Docket Office, Docket No. ICR 98-22, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 219-7894. Written comments limited to 10 pages or less in length may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-5046.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Schmidt, Office of Statistics, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N3647, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 219-6463. Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Dave Schmidt at (202) 219-6463 or Barbara Bielaski at (202) 219-8076. For electronic copies of the OSHA Data Collection Initiative Request, contact OSHA's WebPage on the Internet at <http://www.osha.gov/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

To meet many of OSHA's program needs, OSHA is proposing to continue its data initiative to collect occupational injury and illness data and information on number of workers employed and number of hours worked from establishments in portions of the private sector. OSHA will collect 1998 data from 80,000 employers required to create and maintain records pursuant to CFR part 1904. These data will allow OSHA to calculate occupational injury and illness rates and to focus its efforts on individual workplaces with ongoing serious safety and health problems. Successful implementation of the data collection initiative is critical to OSHA's reinvention efforts and the data requirements tied to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

II. Current Actions

This notice requests OMB approval of the paperwork requirements for the OSHA Data Collection System. Approval is necessary to ensure that the Agency continues to obtain establishment data necessary to carry on with the development and expansion of the new OSHA. This will allow the Agency to deal with a larger number of employers without massive increases in resources, will reduce intrusive interventions in workplaces that are relatively safe, and will lead to improved workplace safety and health for America's workers. In addition,

OSHA will be able to proceed with its GPRA requirements to monitor the results of Agency activities, quantify and evaluate the successes and failure of its various programs based on program results, identify the most efficient and effective program mix, and promote the development of programs and policies based on outcome data.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Title: OSHA Data Collection System.

OMB Number: 1218-0209.

Agency Number: ICR-98-22.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc.: OSHA Form 196A and OSHA Form 196B.

Total Respondents: 80,000.

Frequency: Annually.

Average Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 35,000 hours.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 12, 1998.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 98-13256 Filed 5-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-98-23]

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; 29 CFR Part 1904 Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (1218-0176)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested

data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of approval for the paperwork requirements of 29 CFR part 1904. Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (less 1904.8, Reporting of Fatality or Multiple Hospitalization Incidents and 1904.17, Annual OSHA Injury and Illness Survey of Ten or More Employers).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 20, 1998. Written comments should:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Comments are to be submitted to the Docket Office, Docket No., ICR-98-23 U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 219-7894. Written comments limited to 10 pages or less in length may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-5046.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Schmidt, Office of Statistics, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N3507, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 219-6463. Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying in the Docket Office and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Dave Schmidt at (202) 219-6463 or Barbara Bielaski at (202) 219-8076. For electronic copies, contact

OSHA's WebPage on the Internet at <http://www.osha.gov/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The OSHA Act and 29 CFR Part 1904 prescribe that certain employers maintain records of job related injuries and illnesses. The injury and illness records are intended to have multiple purposes. One purpose is to provide data needed by OSHA to carry out enforcement and intervention activities to provide workers a safe and healthy work environment. The data are also needed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to report on the number and rate of occupational injuries and illnesses in the country.

The data also provide information for employers and employees of the kinds of injuries and illnesses occurring in the workplace and their related hazards. Increased employer awareness should result in the identification and voluntary correction of hazardous workplace conditions. Likewise, employees who are provided information on injuries and illnesses will be more likely to follow safe work practices and report workplace hazards. This would generally raise the overall level of safety and health in the workplace.

OSHA currently has approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for information collection requirements contained in 29 CFR part 1904. That approval will expire on December 31, 1998, unless OSHA applies for an extension of the OMB approval. This notice initiates the process for OSHA to request an extension of the current OMB approval. This notice also solicits public comment on OSHA's existing paperwork burden estimates from those interested parties and to seek public response to several questions related to the development of OSHA's estimation. Interested parties are requested to review OSHA's estimates, which are based upon the most current data available, and to comment on their accuracy or appropriateness in today's workplace situation.

29 CFR 1904.8, Reporting of Fatality or Multiple Hospitalization Incidents (OMB control number 1218-0007) and 29 CFR 1904.17, Annual OSHA Injury and Illness Survey of Ten or More employers (OMB control number yet to be assigned) are each under separate Information Collection Request (ICR) packages.

II. Current Actions

This notice requests an extension of the current OMB approval of the

paperwork requirements in 29 CFR part 1904, Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Agency: U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Title: Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.

OMB Number: 1218-0176

Agency Number: ICR-98-23

Frequency: Recordkeeping.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Farms; Not-for-profit institutions; State and Local Government.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc: 29 CFR Part 1904; OSHA No. 200; OSHA No. 101

Number of Respondents: 1,110,398

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 1.56 hours

Total Burden Hours: 1,741,959 hours
Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request. They will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 12, 1998.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. NRTL-2-90]

SGS U.S. Testing Company Inc., Applications for Renewal and Expansion of Recognition

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of request for renewal and expansion of recognition as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL), and preliminary finding.

SUMMARY: This notice announces: (1) the application of SGS U.S. Testing Company Inc. (formerly U.S. Testing Company, Inc., California Division) for renewal of its recognition as an NRTL under 29 CFR 1910.7, and (2) the applications of SGS U.S. Testing Company Inc. for expansion of its recognition as an NRTL under 29 CFR 1910.7, for a new site and to use additional programs and procedures, and presents the Agency's preliminary finding. In addition, this notice formally reflects the name change to SGS U.S. Testing Company Inc.

DATES: The last date for interested parties to submit comments is July 20, 1998.

ADDRESS: Send comments concerning this notice to: NRTL Program, Office of Technical Programs and Coordination Activities, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N3653, Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernard Pasquet, NRTL Recognition Program at the above address, or phone (202) 219-7056.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Notice of Application

Notice is hereby given that SGS U.S. Testing Company Inc. (SGS) has applied to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.7, for renewal and for an expansion of its current recognition as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL). When first recognized as an NRTL, the organization's name was U.S. Testing Company, Inc., California Division. SGS informed OSHA of the change in name (see Exhibit 7B), and this notice reflects that change. In regards to the renewal, SGS received its recognition as an NRTL on March 23, 1993 (see 58 FR 15509), for a period of five years ending March 23, 1998. Appendix A to 29 CFR 1910.7 stipulates that the period of recognition of an NRTL is five years and that an NRTL may renew its recognition by applying not less than nine months, nor more than one year, before the expiration date of its current recognition. SGS applied for a renewal of its recognition on March 23, 1997 (see Exhibit 7C), within the time allotted, and retains its recognition pending OSHA's final decision in this renewal process. In regards to the expansions, SGS requests recognition to use additional programs and procedures. However, that use will be subject to certain conditions. SGS also requests recognition for another testing facility (site) in Fairfield, New Jersey, which will become the headquarters of its NRTL operations. The application for this facility is for recognition for testing and certification to the test standards listed below in the section titled "Expansion of Recognition—Additional Facility." The application incorporates the use of the additional programs and procedures, also listed below. The previous application of SGS, pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.7, covered its recognition as an NRTL (56 FR 10045, 3/23/92), which OSHA granted on the date noted above.