

Agreement No.: 207-011441-002.

Title: The NOSAC/NYK Joint Service (East/West) Agreement.

Parties:

NOSAC ANS ("NOSAC")
Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Synopsis: The proposed amendment replaces NOSAC as a member with its wholly owned subsidiary Wilhelmsen Lines. It adds ports and points in Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean Islands to the Agreement's geographic scope; it adds other provisions related to the administration of the joint service; and changes the name of the Agreement to the "NYK/NOS Joint Service Agreement." Upon the effectiveness of this amendment, the parties intend to terminate the NOSAC/NYK Joint Service (North/South) Agreement (FMC Agreement No. 207-011438).

Agreement No.: 203-011512-001.

Title: Hyundai/MSC Agreement.

Parties:

Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., Ltd.
Mediterranean Shipping Co., S.A.

Synopsis: The proposed amendment sets the expiration date of the agreement as December 31, 1999. It also removes the six-month notice period for termination.

Agreement No.: 202-011587-003.

Title: United States South Europe Conference.

Parties:

A.P. Moller-Maersk Line
P&O Nedlloyd B.V.
P&O Nedlloyd Limited
Sea-Land Service, Inc.

Synopsis: The proposed modification expands the agreement's geographic scope to include Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea ports; deletes authority to agree on inland rates in the European Union, but authorizes adoption of a "not below cost" rule with respect to inland transportation in Europe; authorizes the members to jointly negotiate with providers of inland transportation within the U.S. effective May 1, 1999; limits the authority to agree on freight forwarder compensation to U.S. exports; requires a unanimous vote to "close" any rate, rule, or regulation; eliminates mandatory service contract guidelines, but provides for voluntary guidelines; and reduces the obligations of members under the agreement.

Dated: November 20, 1998.

By order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Joseph C. Polking,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-31567 Filed 11-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than December 21, 1998.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (JoAnne F. Lewellen, Assistant Vice President) 90 Hennepin Avenue, P.O. Box 291, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-0291:

1. *Fishback Financial Corporation*, Brookings, South Dakota; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Pipestone Bancshares, Inc., Pipestone, Minnesota, and thereby indirectly acquire First National Bank and Trust, Pipestone, Minnesota, and First National Bank of Garretson, Garretson, South Dakota.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. *Barret Bancorp, Inc.*, Barretville, Tennessee; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Barretville Bank & Trust Company, Barretville, Tennessee, and 39 percent of the voting shares of Somerville Bank & Trust Company, Somerville, Tennessee.

C. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. *Ace Gas, Inc.*, Deshler, Nebraska, and Gibbon Exchange Company, Gibbon, Nebraska; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Junction City First National Co., Junction City, Kansas; and thereby indirectly acquire First National Bank, Junction City, Kansas.

D. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (W. Arthur Tribble, Vice President) 2200 North Pearl Street, Dallas, Texas 75201-2272:

1. *WB&T Bancshares, Inc.*, Duncanville, Texas, and WB&T Delaware Bancshares, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware; to become bank holding companies by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Western Bank & Trust, Duncanville, Texas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 20, 1998.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98-31565 Filed 11-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than December 21, 1998.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (Paul Kaboth, Banking Supervisor) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2566:

1. *Premier Financial Bancorp, Inc.*, Georgetown, Kentucky; to merge with Mt. Vernon Bancshares, Mount Vernon, Kentucky, and thereby indirectly acquire Bank of Mt. Vernon, Mount Vernon, Kentucky.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (Lois Berthaume, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2713:

1. *Altrust Financial Services Employee Stock Ownership Plan*, Cullman, Alabama; to become a bank holding company by acquiring up to 45 percent of the voting shares of Altrust Financial Services, Inc., Cullman, Alabama, and thereby indirectly acquire The Peoples Bank of North Alabama, Cullman, Alabama.

2. *First Bancshares, Inc.*, Hattiesburg, Mississippi; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of First National Bank of the Pine Belt, Laurel, Mississippi.

C. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. *Citizens First Corporation*, Bowling Green, Kentucky; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Citizens First Bank, Inc., Bowling Green, Kentucky (in organization).

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 23, 1998.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98-31665 Filed 11-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request

AGENCY: Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the request of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a generic approval of "Voluntary Customer Surveys of 'Partners' of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research". In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), the AHCPR invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection request to allow it to conduct voluntary customer satisfaction surveys of partners. AHCPR will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects to be carried out under this generic approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act requirements.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to the OMB Desk Officer at the following address: Allison Eyd, Human Resources and Housing Branch, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB: New Executive Office Building, Room 10235; Washington, DC 20503. All comments will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth A. Celtnieks, AHCPR Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 594-1406, ext. 1497.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Project

"Voluntary Customer Surveys of 'Partners' of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research."

In response to Executive Order 12862, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) plans to conduct voluntary customer surveys of

"partners" to identify how well AHCPR is performing its functions with its partners and to use this information to determine the kind and quality of services they like and expect, their level of satisfaction with existing services, and to implement improvements where feasible and practical. AHCPR partners are typically health care payers, plans, practitioners and providers, researchers, professional associations, AHCPR data suppliers, and State and local governments, as well as persons or entities that provide service to the public for AHCPR, e.g., dissemination of AHCPR publications by a "middle man" such as a professional society.

Partner surveys to be conducted by AHCPR may include, for example, surveys of research grantees to measure satisfaction with technical assistance received from AHCPR. Results of these surveys will be used to assess and redirect resources and efforts needed to improve services. For example, the AHCPR's Office of Research Review, Education, and Policy (ORREP) provides grant funds for training of health services researchers. AHCPR would like to survey scholars whose training it has supported regarding their training experience.

In addition, the Office for Health Care Information (OHCI) is proposing to survey one component of their customers: researchers. This proposed survey will be undertaken by a contractor to determine how AHCPR could better serve the research community.

Questions asked may include a need for extended hours to answer inquiries on grant submission-related matters or the development of a comprehensive manual on grant submission.

Method of Collection

The data will be collected using a combination of preferred methodologies appropriate to each survey. These methodologies are: mail surveys; evaluation forms; automated and electronic technology (e.g., AHCPR Clearinghouse Publications, Instantfax); telephone surveys; and focus groups.

The estimated annual burden is as follows:

Type of survey	No. of respondents	Average burden/response	Total hours of burden
Mail/Telephone Surveys or Electronic Technologies	3,000	20 minutes	1,000
Focus Groups	200	1.5 Hours	300
Totals	3,200	.41 Hours	1,300