

and the National Environmental Policy Act. Other activities of the Framework Project involve improving long-term cooperation and coordination among the Forest Service, tribes, local governments, state and federal agencies.

On November 20, 1998, the Region published a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** identifying five problem areas to address in an Environmental Impact Statement: old forest ecosystems; aquatic, riparian and meadow ecosystems; fire and fuels management; noxious weeds; and, lower westside hardwood ecosystems. Prior to drafting the Notice of Intent, the Pacific Southwest Region and Pacific Southwest Research Station reviewed recent science and gathered public comment and related information during a series of 37 community workshops throughout the Sierra and other towns in California and Nevada. Publication of the Notice of Intent initiated a 60-day opportunity for public comment, including 27 additional community workshops. To date, the Forest Service has received 3000 comments via letters, postcards, and e-mail. Response to these comments is integrated into the alternatives being developed to address the five problem areas.

In response to the significant public interest in the development of alternatives, the Forest Service is making available summary descriptions of alternatives that may appear in the draft EIS. The Forest Service is not soliciting public comment on these preliminary drafts, but is making them available so people may be better prepared to comment on the draft EIS when it is published.

At present, several alternatives are being developed by the Forest Service. These alternatives reflect extensive public comment and suggestions, as well as recent scientific information. To view summaries of these draft alternatives, please see the USDA Forest Service Region 5 World Wide Web site [www.r5.fs.fed.us](http://www.r5.fs.fed.us) or contact USDA Forest Service, Sierra Nevada Framework Project, 801 I Street, Room 419, Sacramento, CA, 95814 to receive a copy by mail.

The Forest Service is convening public meetings to inform interested people about its progress in the development of the environmental impact statement. Meetings will be held in the Sierra Nevada Framework Project Office, 801 I Street, Sacramento, California, 95814 Room 484 as follows:

Tuesday, May 11, 1999, 1–3 pm  
Wednesday, June 2, 1999, 1–3 pm  
Wednesday, July 7, 1999, 1–3 pm  
Wednesday, August 4, 1999, 1–3 pm

Dated: April 9, 1999.

**Kent P. Connaughton,**

*Deputy Regional Forester.*

[FR Doc. 99–10062 Filed 4–21–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–M

## BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**DATE AND TIME:** April 27, 1999; 9:30 A.M.

**PLACE:** Cohen Building, Room 3321, 330 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547.

**CLOSED MEETING:** The members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet in closed session to review and discuss a number of issues relating to U.S. Government-funded non-military international broadcasting. They will address internal procedural, budgetary, and personnel issues, as well as sensitive foreign policy issues relating to potential options in the U.S. international broadcasting field. This meeting is closed because if open it likely would either disclose matters that would be properly classified to be kept secret in the interest of foreign policy under the appropriate executive order (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(1)) or would disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(9)(B)). In addition, part of the discussion will relate solely to the internal personnel and organizational issues of the BBG or the International Broadcasting Bureau. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(2) and (6)).

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Persons interested in obtaining more information should contact either Brenda Hardnett or John Lindburg at (202) 401–3736.

Dated: April 19, 1999.

**John A. Lindburg,**

*Legal Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 99–10159 Filed 4–19–99; 4:50 pm]

BILLING CODE 8230–01–M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Export Trade Certificate of Review

**ACTION:** Notice of Application to Amend Certificate.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Export Trading Company Affairs (“OETCA”), International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, has received an application to amend an Export

Trade Certificate of Review (“Certificate”). This notice summarizes the proposed amendment and requests comments relevant to whether the Certificate should be issued.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Morton Schnabel, Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs, International Trade Administration, (202) 482–5131. This is not a toll-free number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title III of the Export Trading Company Act of 1982 (15 U.S.C. 4001–21) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to issue Export Trade Certificates of Review. An Export Trade Certificate of Review protects the holder and the members identified in the Certificate from state and federal government antitrust actions and from private treble damage antitrust actions for the export conduct specified in the Certificate and carried out in compliance with its terms and conditions. Section 302(b)(1) of the Export Trading Company Act of 1982 and 15 CFR 325.6 (a) require the Secretary to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying the applicant and summarizing its proposed export conduct.

#### Request for Public Comments

Interested parties may submit written comments relevant to the determination whether an amended Certificate should be issued. If the comments include any privileged or confidential business information, it must be clearly marked and a nonconfidential version of the comments (identified as such) should be included. Any comments not marked privileged or confidential business information will be deemed to be nonconfidential. An original and five copies, plus two copies of the nonconfidential version, should be submitted no later than 20 days after the date of this notice to: Office of Export Trading Company Affairs, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, Room 1104H, Washington D.C. 20230. Information submitted by any person is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). However, nonconfidential versions of the comments will be made available to the applicant if necessary for determining whether or not to issue the certificate. Comments should refer to this application as “Export Trade Certificate of Review, application number 88–5A013.”

CISA Export Trade Group, Inc.’s original Certificate was issued on October 13, 1988 (53 FR 43253, October 26, 1988), and previously amended on

March 2, 1990 (55 FR 23123, June 6, 1990), December 16, 1991 (57 FR 883, January 9, 1992) and on October 9, 1997 (62 FR 54832, October 22, 1997). A summary of the application for an amendment follows.

### Summary of the Application

**APPLICANT:** Casting Industry Suppliers of America International, formerly known as CISA Export Trade Group.  
223 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 800,  
Chicago, IL 60606.

**CONTACT:** John M. Peterson, Esquire,  
Telephone: (312) 263-3001.

**APPLICATION NO.:** 88-5A013.

**DATE DEEMED SUBMITTED:** April 13, 1999.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** The CISA Export Trade Group, Inc., seeks to amend its Certificate to 1. Change the listing of the Certificate holder cited in this paragraph to the new listing cited in this paragraph in parenthesis as follows: CISA Export Trade Group, Inc. (Casting Industry Suppliers of America International); and 2. Change the listing of the "Member" cited in this paragraph to the new listing cited in this paragraph in parenthesis as follows: Didion Manufacturing Company (Didion International, Inc.); and

3. Delete the following companies as "Members" of the Certificate within the meaning of section § 325.2(1) of the Regulations (15 CFR 325.2 (1)): Georg Fischer Disa, Inc., Holly, MI; Hickman, Williams & Company, Livonia, MI; and

4. Add the following companies as new "Members" of the Certificate within the meaning of § 325.2(1) of the Regulations (15 CFR 325.2 (1)): ABB Industrial System Inc, Columbus, Ohio, for the activities of its division ABB Metallurgy, New Brunswick, NJ; CSI Industrial Systems Corporation, Grayling, MI; Fairmount Minerals, Ltd., Chardon, OH; and Hamilton Technical Ceramics, Paris, ON Canada.

Dated: April 16, 1999.

**Morton Schnabel,**

*Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 99-10069 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

**ACTION:** Notice of publication.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce has been working very closely over the last several months with the European Commission to develop clear and predictable guidance to U.S. organizations that would enable them to comply with the European Union's Directive on Data Protection. The Directive, which went into effect late last year, allows the transfer of personally identifiable data to third countries only if they provide an "adequate" level of privacy protection. Because the United States relies largely on a sectoral and self-regulatory, rather than legislative, approach to effective privacy protection, many U.S. organizations have been uncertain about the impact of the "adequacy" standard on personal data transfers from European Community countries to the United States.

Last Fall, the DOC proposed a safe harbor for U.S. companies that choose to adhere to certain privacy principles. As the DOC explained then, the principles are designed to serve as guidance to U.S. organizations seeking to comply with the European Union Directive. Organizations within the safe harbor would have a presumption of adequacy and data transfers from the European Community to them would continue. Organizations could come into the safe harbor by self certifying that they adhere to these privacy principles. The decision to enter the safe harbor is entirely voluntary. As a result of the safe harbor proposal, the European Union announced last Fall its intention to avoid disrupting data flows to the US so long as the US is engaged in good faith negotiations with the European Commission.

Last November, the DOC issued draft principles for review and comment by interested organizations, noting that the content of the principles was of course crucial to the proposal. The DOC received numerous written comments in response to that draft and countless additional comments and suggestions in the subsequent months through extensive discussions with interested parties. Generally, the comments the DOC received supported the safe harbor concept. They also raised concerns with certain aspects of the principles, particularly access and onward transfer.

Because the principles are quite broad and general, questions were also raised about how they would be applied in specific circumstances. DOC consultations also made clear that US organizations would welcome additional information on the benefits of being in the safe harbor and the

procedures that would be followed when they were in the safe harbor. The comments the DOC received have been extremely valuable both in helping the DOC understand how data is protected in practice and in working with the European Commission to find appropriate solutions to issues raised in DOC/EC discussions.

Concurrently with DOC discussions with US organizations, the DOC has had extensive discussions with the European Commission about the content and contours of the safe harbor as well as on the comments raised by US organizations. On the basis of our discussions with US negotiators and the EU Commission, the DOC has further refined the safe harbor principles to account for the many views expressed and those of our European counterparts.

### New Documents for Review and Comment

At this point, the two sides have achieved a substantial level of consensus on the content of the principles, on the content of more specific guidance (FAQs), and safe harbor procedures and benefits. Accordingly, the DOC is now issuing for comment by US organizations the first tranche of documents that will comprise the relevant safe harbor documents. These include: (1) revised safe harbor principles; (2) frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs) on access; and (3) a draft European Commission document on the procedures that will be established for the handling of complaints where the Commission had made an adequacy determination, as it will with the safe harbor. (These documents are also available on our web site at <http://www.ita.doc.gov/ecom>.) In addition to your comments on these documents, the DOC also requests your views on the weight to give the FAQs relative to the principles.

The DOC will also be issuing within the week additional FAQs addressing certain sectoral concerns, procedural issues, and several clarifications requested during DOC consultations. The European Commission is also providing these documents to the Member States for their comments and review. Additional documents will be put on the ITA website as soon as they are available for review.

All the draft documents are still under negotiation with the European Commission. Points of difference between the two sides have been identified in footnotes in the text and mark those parts of the document that are most likely to be revised further. Please note that these principles and the

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Reports and Guidance Documents; Availability etc.; European Union's Directive on Data Protection; Compliance Guidance for U.S. Organizations

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.