

like a business. While fulfilling its basic mission of providing universal service at a uniform price, the Postal Service would focus more clearly on the needs of all of its customers.

* * *The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through the personal, educational, literary and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities.

39 U.S.C. 101(a).

To carry out this mission of the United States Postal Service as described in section 101 of title 39, United States Code, the organic statute, a statement of mission was adopted in recent years:

To provide every household and business across the United States with the ability to communicate and conduct business with each other and the world through prompt, reliable, secure and economic services for the collection, transportation and delivery of messages and merchandise.

A statement of vision was also developed at the same time and reads as follows:

Our postal products will be recognized as the best value in America. We will evolve into a provider of 21st century postal communications. We will be the most effective and productive service in the Federal Government and markets that we serve.

The Postal Service seeks comment on this interpretation of mission and vision. In addition, the Postal Service seeks comment on the management goals discussed below.

With its mandate to operate in a business-like manner, the Postal Service developed a 5-year Strategic Planning Process in the 1980's. The Postal Service also has been systematically reviewing performance and reforming processes. Since 1994, when the Postal Service applied the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award criteria to create a management system that is called CustomerPerfect!, the Postal Service has invested in a systematic revision of its management system, that is currently using process management tools to reform processes throughout the Service.

The CustomerPerfect! process is designed to provide structure and discipline to achieve better results for postal customers. The CustomerPerfect! management cycle has four distinct phases which can be described as: Establish, Deploy, Implement and Review. The "Establish" phase involves setting organizational direction, determining long and near-term goals,

and making decisions about how to measure progress. The output is a set of broad goals and subgoals for a five-year period, as well as a process prioritizing specific subgoals, targets, and indicators for the coming year.

The "Deploy" phase involves communicating goals to the organization, to seek individual unit contributions to the achievement of targets. The "Implementation" phase requires specific, measurable targets for improvement. The "Review" phase involves a periodic check on the system and its performance, whose primary value is learning what will help improve future results.

Therefore, to comply with the requirements of GPRA to solicit and consider the views and suggestions of those entities potentially affected by or interested in such a plan, and to benefit from such guidance in the preparation of its strategic direction, the Postal Service is hereby requesting public comment on development of its Strategic Plan for the years 1998-2002.

Comments are requested in particular concerning the Postal Service's priorities in sustaining and enhancing a viable twenty-first century Postal Service, as reflected in the following goals developed as part of the CustomerPerfect! process:

- (1) Improve customer satisfaction by offering superior customer value in each market and customer segment;
- (2) Improve employee and organizational effectiveness by having the right people in the right place with the right tools at the right time to consistently provide superior customer value and ensure commercial viability in a dynamic environment;
- (3) Improve financial performance to assure our commercial viability as a service provider for the worldwide movement of messages, merchandise, and money.

Any comments pertaining to how the Postal Service can best achieve these goals, or on other aspects of strategic planning, goals or performance measurement will be appreciated.

Stanley F. Mires,

Chief Counsel, Legislative.

[FR Doc. 97-8270 Filed 3-1-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #2937; Amdt. 2]

State of Tennessee

In accordance with a notice from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, dated March 19, 1997, the above-numbered Declaration is hereby amended to include the Counties of Lake and Tipton in the State of

Tennessee as a disaster area due to damages caused by heavy rain, tornadoes, flooding, hail and high winds beginning on February 28, 1997 and continuing.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the contiguous county of New Madrid, Missouri, may be filed until the specified date at the previously designated location. Any counties contiguous to the above-named primary counties and not listed herein have been covered under a separate declaration for the same occurrence.

The number assigned to this disaster for economic injury is 943200 for Missouri.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: March 21, 1997.

Bernard Kulik,

Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 97-8366 Filed 4-1-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2524]

Study Group on Intercountry Adoption of the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law: Meeting on Basic Concepts for Federal Implementing Legislation for 1993 Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption

The fifth meeting of the Study Group on Intercountry Adoption will take place on Tuesday, April 15, 1997, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the main building of the Department of State in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss basic concepts for implementation throughout the United States of the 1993 Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. The meeting will focus on a concept paper that will be available from the Office of the Legal Adviser of the State Department in advance of the meeting.

The Hague Convention provides norms and procedures to safeguard children on the move from one party country to another in connection with their adoption and to protect the interests of their birth and adoptive parents. It provides, among other things, for the recognition of adoptions made pursuant to the Convention, requires the establishment in party countries of a national Central Authority with primarily facilitation and oversight functions, and requires adoption

agencies wishing to offer services for individual adoptions covered by the Convention to meet national accreditation requirements and individual providers of adoption services to be approved.

Those attending the meeting will examine and discuss the concept paper describing the basic approach and provisions of eventual U.S. federal implementing legislation that is currently in preparation by various federal government departments, including the Departments of State, Justice, Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Draft legislation will be developed after the meeting taking into consideration the comments and proposals made at the meeting and will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Administration clearance. The hope is that the draft bill will be ready for introduction in both Houses of Congress by Summer 1997 as an Administration bill. The Hague Convention is to be submitted to the President at about the same time for transmission to the Senate for advice and consent to U.S. ratification.

Persons and organizations interested in how the Convention is to be implemented in the United States, whether they are able to attend the meeting or not, are welcome in writing or by fax to request documents from, and to submit written comments or proposals to, the office indicated below. The text of the Hague Convention may be found at 31 International Legal Materials 292 (1993); the Appendix at p. 76 of P.H. Pfund, "Intercountry Adoption: The 1993 Hague Convention: Its Purpose, Implementation, and Promise", 28 Family Law Quarterly (1994); I/II Uniform Law Review 237 (1993); and 40 Netherlands International Law Review 292 (1993).

Members of the general public may attend up to the capacity of the meeting room and participate in the discussion subject to the Chair. The meeting is scheduled in the Dean Acheson Auditorium of the Department of State; entry should be only via the 23rd Street entrance between "C" and "D" Streets, N.W. As access to the building is controlled and in order to expedite entry, the office indicated below should be notified by mail or fax no later than c.o.b. Friday, April 11 of the name, address, firm or affiliation if any, social security number and date of birth of all persons wishing to attend. Between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. someone will be at the 23rd Street entrance to the State Department to facilitate admission to the building.

For copies of the concept paper, and the text of the Convention if necessary, please contact the Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser for Private International Law (L/PIL), attention Ms. Rosie Gonzales, by mail at 2430 E Street, South Building—Suite 357, Washington, DC 20037-2800 or by fax at (202) 776-8482.

Peter H. Pfund,

Assistant Legal Adviser for Private International Law and Vice Chair, Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law, U.S. Department of State.
[FR Doc. 97-8516 Filed 3-31-97; 1:52 pm]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Reports, Form and Recordkeeping Requirements, Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Office of The Secretary, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act 1995 (44 USC Chapter 3501, *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on November 13, 1996 (FR 61, page 58275-58276).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 2, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Bradley, Customer Services Program Manager, K-20, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 3430, Washington, DC 20590 (202) 366-8925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Title: Customer Surveys.

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: New.

Affected Entities: Transportation statistics industry and the general public.

Abstract: Customer satisfaction surveys are required by Executive Order 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards, to ensure that the BTS provides the highest quality service to our customers. Steps will be taken to assure anonymity of respondents in each activity covered under this request.

Need: Executive Order 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards, directs BTS to conduct surveys to determine the kind and quality of services the transportation statistics industry and general public wants and expects.

Burden Statement: The estimated annual burden is 683 hours.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, ATTN: BTS Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions or the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued in Washington, DC on March 27, 1997.

Phillip A. Leach,

Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 97-8409 Filed 4-1-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

Federal Aviation Administration

Advisory Circular; Turbine Engine Vibration Survey

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of issuance Advisory Circular (AC) on turbine engine vibration survey.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the issuance of Advisory Circular (AC), No. 33.83, Turbine Engine Vibration Survey. This AC is on the subject of vibration tests and surveys. A set of improved and harmonized requirements were incorporated into part 33 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR's), and this AC is meant to provide information and guidance concerning an acceptable method, but not the only method, for complying with those new harmonized requirements.

DATES: Advisory Circular No. 33.83 was issued by the New England Aircraft Certification Service, Engine and the Propeller Directorate on February 14, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: