would need to become a ''DRS Limited Participant'' at DTC.[4]

Therefore, Nasdaq is proposing to amend its rules to establish a qualification requirement for all securities to be included in Nasdaq that if the issuer establishes a direct registration program it shall participate in an electronic link with a securities depository in order to facilitate the electronic transfer of interests held pursuant to the direct registration program. This link is permitted by the proposed rule to be direct or through the issuer's transfer agent.

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act[5] in that it fosters cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in the clearing and settling of transactions in securities, and in general, protects investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change ensures that there is a quick and efficient means for financial intermediaries, such as broker-dealers and banks, to transfer these interests on behalf of shareholders. In addition, Nasdaq believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A which sets forth Congress' findings that the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions are necessary for the protection of investors. In particular, the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A(a)(1) in that it takes advantage of new date processing and communications techniques and linked or coordinated facilities, and thus provides for more efficient, effective, and safe procedures for the clearance and settlement of securities transactions.

[4] According to DTC, a party wishing to open a Limited Participant account must (1) be registered as a transfer agent with the SEC; (2) participate as a transfer agent in DTC's Fast Automated Securities Transfer (''FAST'') program; (3) provide Direct Mail Service on transfers; and (4) communicate with DTC through a computer-to-computer interface using DTC's CCF platforms.

DTC charges a DRS Limited Participant an account holder fee of $225 per month regardless of the number of DRS eligible issues for which the Limited Participant is participating. In addition, DTC charges $.045 per transaction. DTC participants also will be charged $0.45 per transaction. In addition, when a DTC participant instructs a transfer agent to establish a DRS account for a shareholder and the transfer agent subsequently mails a transaction advice to the shareholder confirming that such an account has been established at the transfer agent, the transfer agent's fee of $0.55 for mailing and handling the DRS transactions advice will be charged to the DTC participant directly by DTC. This fee is periodically remitted to the transfer agent.

[5] 15 U.S.C. 78o–3.

(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended.

(C) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within thirty-five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to ninety days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which Nasdaq consents, the Commission will:

(A) by order approve such proposed rule change or

(B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of Nasdaq. All submissions should refer to File No. SR–NASD–97–51 and should be submitted by October 14, 1997.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.[6]

[6] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–25216 Filed 9–22–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

1997–98 Allocations of the Tariff-Rate Quotas for Raw Cane Sugar, Refined Sugar, and Sugar Containing Products

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice of the country-by-country allocations of the in-quota quantity of the tariff-rate quotas for imported raw cane sugar, refined sugar, and sugar containing products for the period that begins October 1, 1997 and ends September 30, 1998.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries may be mailed or delivered to Audrae Erickson, Senior Economist, Office of Agricultural Affairs (Room 421), Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Audrae Erickson, Office of Agricultural Affairs, 202–395–6127.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Additional U.S. Note 5 to chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), the United States maintains tariff-rate quotas for imports of raw cane and refined sugar. Pursuant to additional U.S. Note 8 to Chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule, the United States also maintains a tariff-rate quota for certain sugar-containing products.

Section 404(d)(3) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3601(d)(3)) authorizes the President to allocate the in-quota quantity of a tariff-rate quota for any agricultural product among supplying countries or customs areas. The President delegated this authority to the United States Trade Representative under paragraph (3) of Presidential Proclamation No. 6763 (60 FR 1007).

The in-quota quantity of the raw cane tariff-rate quota for the period October 1, 1997–September 30, 1998, has been established by the Secretary of Agriculture at 1,200,000 metric tons, raw value (1,322,773 short tons). This quantity is being allocated to the following countries in metric tons, raw value:

Country	FY 1998 allocation
Argentina	48,101
Australia	92,846
Barbados	7,830
Belize	12,305
Bolivia	8,949
Brazil	162,201
Columbia	26,847
Congo	7,258
Cote d'Ivoire	7,258
Costa Rica	16,779
Dominican Republic	196,878
Ecuador	12,305
El Salvador	29,084
Fiji	10,068
Gabon	7,258
Guatemala	53,694
Guyana	13,424
Haiti	7,258
Honduras	11,186
India	8,949
Jamaica	12,305
Madagascar	7,258
Malawi	11,186
Mauritius	13,424
Mexico	25,000
Mozambique	14,542
Nicaragua	23,491
Panama	32,440
Papua New Guinea	7,258
Paraguay	7,258
Peru	45,864
Philippines	151,015
South Africa	25,728
St. Kitts & Nevis	7,258
Swaziland	17,898
Taiwan	13,424
Thailand	15,661
Trinidad-Tobago	7,830
Uruguay	7,258
Zimbabwe	13,424
Total	1,200,000

This allocation includes the following minimum quota-holding countries: Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Haiti, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, St. Kitts & Nevis, and Uruguay.

The in-quota quantity of the tariff-rate quota for refined sugar for the period October 1, 1997–September 30, 1998, has been established by the Secretary of Agriculture at 50,000 metric tons, raw value (55,116 short tons), of which the Secretary has reserved 4,656 metric tons (5,132 short tons) for specialty sugars. Of the quantity not reserved for specialty sugars, a total of 10,300 metric tons (11,354 short tons) is being allocated to Canada and 2,954 metric tons (3,256 short tons) is being allocated to Mexico. An additional 25,000 metric tons (27,558 short tons) of this quantity is being allocated to Mexico to fulfill obligations pursuant to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Under the NAFTA, the United States is to provide total access for raw and refined sugar from Mexico of 25,000 metric tons, raw value, for this quota period in conjunction with Mexico's net surplus producer status. This allocation is subject to NAFTA rules of origin and to the condition that the total imports of raw and refined sugar from Mexico, combined, is not to exceed 25,000 metric tons raw value. The remaining 7,090 metric tons (7,815 short tons) of the in-quota quantity not reserved for specialty sugars is not being allocated among supplying countries and may be supplied by any country, subject to any other provision of law. The 4,656 metric tons (5,132 short tons) reserved for specialty sugars is also not being allocated among supplying countries and may be supplied by any country, subject to any other provision of law.

With respect to the tariff-rate quota for certain sugar-containing products maintained pursuant to additional U.S. Note 8 to Chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule, 59,250 metric tons (65,312 short tons) of sugar containing products is being allocated to Canada. The remaining in-quota quantity for this tariff-rate quota is available to other countries.

Charlene Barshefsky,

United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 97–25121 Filed 9–22–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Reports, Forms 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 of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 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 in 62 FR 19159–19162, April 18,1997.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 23, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Morris Oliver, (202) 366–2251, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Title: Implementation Plan, Traffic Surveillance and Control.

OMB Number: 2125–0512.

Type of Request: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Affected Public: State and local transportation agencies who utilize federal funds for traffic management projects and contractors involved in ITS/Traffic Management, who may write the implementation plan for the State and local transportation agency.

Abstract: An implementation plan for a federal aid traffic control project is required from the States and local agencies to assure that there are adequate provisions and resources for the acquisition and operational phases of the project.

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 4,000.

Number of Respondents: 25.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725–17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention DOT Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of 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 September 15, 1997.

Vanester M. Williams,

Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 97–25207 Filed 9–22–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–62–P