

utilize respective enhancements to the PACE System. These fees address the cost of, and demand for, these new interfaces, which offer important new risk management tools to Phlx specialists.

\$.10 Per Trade Off-Exchange Trade Information Fee. The first of the new enhancements provides certain real-time positions to Phlx specialist units. Specifically, it enhances the Exchange's proprietary risk management systems by allowing Phlx specialist units to obtain more complete data reflecting real-time positions for their respective trading accounts for DOT transactions by means of a real-time interface with the PACE System. The enhancement incorporates DOT trades on a real-time basis into the Phlx specialist unit's position reports, which are displayed electronically via the PACE System. This feature, including the interface, is voluntary.

The proposed fee is being instituted to defray costs of establishing real-time DOT interfaces with various member organizations, providing trade information to Phlx specialist units as well as to cover costs of maintenance and operation.⁵ The real-time interface should contribute to enhancing the Phlx specialist unit's ability to track trading account positions by allowing more complete, time-sensitive position reports to be developed reflecting DOT transactions.

\$.300 Per Month Remote Information Access Fee. The second of the new enhancements allows specialist units to view trading positions from a remote access terminal off the trading floor. The new feature provides real-time positions to the off-floor (or "upstairs") offices of Phlx specialist units via a PACE System dial-up connection. This enhancement will enable the upstairs office of the Phlx specialist units access to data reflecting real-time positions for their respective trading accounts with specific detail, including the security, the last sale of that security, the profit or loss of the position, and a total long and/or short dollar value. This enhancement incorporates trades on a real-time basis into the specialist unit's position reports, which are displayed electronically at a remote access terminal via a dial-up connection. This

⁵ As originally filed, the purpose section stated that the enhancement provided execution services to Phlx specialist units. The Exchange has clarified that the enhancement does not provide execution services to Phlx specialist units. Instead, the enhancement only provides trade information to Phlx specialist units, which the specialist units may then use as they see fit. As per telephone conversation between John Dayton, Assistant Secretary and Counsel, Phlx, and Heather Traeger, Attorney, SEC, Division of Market Regulation, on December 7, 2000.

feature, which is voluntary,⁶ is a means for off-floor principals of Phlx specialist units to gauge their unit's risk exposure.

The proposed fee is being instituted to defray the costs of and demand for this risk management report as well as maintenance and operation of the dial-up connection service. The Exchange is choosing to charge a flat monthly fee for this service. The Exchange believes that a flat monthly fee is appropriate as the fee for the remote access feature reflects the cost of creating and maintaining a dial-up connection with the off-floor offices of the specialist. Information transmitted through this dial-up connection is substantially similar to the information currently received by the specialist unit on the floor of the Exchange. The remote access feature should contribute to enhancing the upstairs office's ability to track trading account positions by allowing more complete, time-sensitive position reports to be viewed by a principals of specialist units from off the floor.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) and (6)(5) of the Act⁷ in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities and promotes just and equitable principles of trade.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change, which (1) establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange and (2) effects a change in an existing order-entry or trading system of the Exchange that (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors of the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) does not have the effect of limiting the access to or availability of the

⁶ The Phlx confirmed that this feature is voluntary. *Id.*

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (b)(5).

system, has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and subparagraph (f)(2) and (f)(5) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.⁹ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0609. 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 at the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Phlx. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PHLX-00-99 and should be submitted by January 5, 2001.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁰

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-31995 Filed 12-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3304]

State of Michigan; Amendment #2

In accordance with information received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, dated December 1, 2000, the above-numbered Declaration is hereby amended to extend the deadline for filing applications for physical damages as a result of this disaster to December 18, 2000.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2) and (f)(5).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.30-2(a)(12).

All other information remains the same, i.e., the deadline for filing applications for economic injury is July 17, 2001.

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

Dated: December 7, 2000.

Allan I. Hoberman,

Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 00-31972 Filed 12-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Renewal of Treatment on Government Procurement of Products From Countries Designated Under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Renewal of Treatment on Government Procurement of Products from Countries Designated under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act.

Under the authority delegated to me by the President in section 1-201 of Executive order 12260 of December 31, 1980, I hereby direct that products of countries, listed below, designated by the President as beneficiaries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2701, et seq.) with the exception of the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Panama, shall continue to be treated as eligible products for purposes of section 1-101 of Executive Order 12260 until September 30, 2001. Such treatment shall not apply to products originating in these countries that are excluded from duty free treatment under 19 U.S.C. 2703(b). Decisions on the subsequent renewal of this treatment beyond September 30, 2001 will be based on beneficiaries' efforts to improve domestic procurement practices, on their support for relevant international initiatives, such as those in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Working Group on Transparency in Government Procurement and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Negotiating Group on Government Procurement, and on their progress toward acceding to the WTO Government Procurement Agreement.

List of Countries Designated as Beneficiary Countries for Purpose of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA): Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Costa

Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts-Nevis, British Virgin Islands.

Charlene Barshefsky,

United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 00-32042 Filed 12-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

The South Carolina Railroad Museum, Inc.

[Docket Number FRA-2000-8249]

The South Carolina Railroad Museum (SCMX), Inc. of Columbia, South Carolina, has petitioned for a permanent waiver of compliance for four passenger coaches and one dining car from the requirements of the Railroad Power Brakes and Drawbars, 49 CFR Part 232.17(b)(2), which requires that air brake equipment on passenger cars be cleaned, repaired, lubricated, and tested (COTS) as often as necessary, but not less frequently than as required in Standard S-045 in the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices of the Association of American Railroads (AAR). Standard S-045 requires that these cars equipped with S-22 brake equipment receive COTS every 24 months. The museum requests that the maintenance interval be extended from 24 months to 60 months. SCMX indicates that cars are utilized in excursion service and for special charters and were used 53 days in the last calendar year.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a

hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2000-8249) and must be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room Pl-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room Pl-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 11, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 00-31975 Filed 12-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket Number: MARAD-2000-8519]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel GINGERSNAP.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at