

Furthermore, when NSCC ceases to act for an ETP Holder or the ETP Holder's clearing firm, and NSCC determines not to guarantee the settlement of the ETP Holder's trade, ArcaEx will reveal the contra-party's identity.

The Exchange believes that post-trade anonymity will benefit investors because preserving anonymity through settlement limits the potential market impact that disclosing the Users' identity may have. Specifically, when the contra-party's identity is revealed, Users can detect trading patterns and make assumptions about the potential direction of the market based on the User's presumed client-base. For example, if the User handles large institutional orders and becomes an active buyer in the security, others could anticipate such demand and adjust their trading strategy accordingly. The Exchange believes that his could result in increased costs. The Exchange states that post-trade anonymity will not compromise an ETP Holder's ability to settle an erroneous trade, because under PCXE Rules 7.10–7.11, the trade adjustment process is coordinated by the Exchange, without the need for contra-parties to know each other's identities.⁸ By eliminating the User's identity and mitigating market impact, the Exchange believes that it will help Users meet best execution obligations.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with section 6(b) of the Act,⁹ in general, and section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁰ in particular, in that it will promote just and equitable principles of trade; facilitate transactions in securities, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system; and protect investors and the public interest.

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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

Written comments on the proposed rule change were neither solicited nor received.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
- (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and
- (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹² 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.¹³

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549–0609. Comments may also be submitted electronically at the following e-mail address: rule-comments@sec.gov. All comment letters should refer to File No. SR-PCX–2003–63. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review comments more efficiently, comments should be sent in hardcopy or by e-mail but not by both methods. 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 Room. Copies of such filing will also be

available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PCX–2003–63, and should be submitted by February 6, 2004.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04–1014 Filed 1–15–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4586]

United States International Telecommunication Advisory Committee; Information Meeting on the World Summit on the Information Society and the U.S. Preparatory Process

The Department of State announces a meeting of the U.S. International Telecommunication Advisory Committee (ITAC). The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Department on matters related to telecommunication and information policy matters in preparation for international meetings pertaining to telecommunication and information issues.

The ITAC will meet to discuss the matters related to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which took place in December 2003, including the follow-up to WSIS. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 4, 2004 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the auditorium of the Historic National Academy of Science Building. The National Academy of Sciences is located at 2100 C St. NW., Washington, DC.

Members of the public are welcome to participate and may join in the discussions, subject to the discretion of the Chair. Persons planning to attend this meeting should send the following data by fax to (202) 647–5957 or e-mail to jillsonad@state.gov not later than 24 hours before the meeting: (1) Name of the meeting, (2) your name, and (3) organizational affiliation. A valid photo ID must be presented to gain entrance to the National Academy of Sciences Building. Directions to the meeting location may be obtained by calling the ITAC Secretariat at 202 647–5205 or e-mail to jillsonad@state.gov.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

¹³ For purposes of determining the effective date of the filing and calculating the 60-day abrogation date, the Commission considers the period to commence on January 9, 2004, the date PCX filed Amendment No. 1.

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

⁸ See Amendment No. 1.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Dated: January 12, 2004.

Anne Jillson,

Foreign Affairs Officer, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 04-1028 Filed 1-15-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. 2001-11213, Notice No. 3]

RIN 2130-AA81

Alcohol and Drug Testing: Determination of Minimum Random Testing Rates for 2004

AGENCY: Federal Railroad
Administration (FRA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: Using data from Management Information System annual reports, FRA has determined that the 2002 rail industry random testing positive rate was 0.79 percent for drugs and 0.19 percent for alcohol. Since the industry-wide random drug testing positive rate continues to be below 1.0 percent, the Federal Railroad Administrator (Administrator) has determined that the minimum annual random drug testing rate for the period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004 will remain at 25 percent of covered railroad employees. Since the random alcohol testing violation rate has remained below 0.5 percent for the last two years, the Administrator has determined that the minimum random alcohol testing rate will remain at 10 percent of covered railroad employees for the period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

DATES: This notice is effective upon publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lamar Allen, Alcohol and Drug Program Manager, Office of Safety Enforcement, Mail Stop 25, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005, (Telephone: (202) 493-6313).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Administrator's Determination of 2004 Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Rates

In a final rule published on December 2, 1994 (59 FR 62218), FRA announced that it will set future minimum random drug and alcohol testing rates according to the rail industry's overall positive rate, which is determined using annual railroad drug and alcohol program data taken from FRA's Management Information System. Based on this data,

the Administrator publishes a **Federal Register** notice each year, announcing the minimum random drug and alcohol testing rates for the following year (see 49 CFR 219.602, 608).

Under this performance-based system, FRA may lower the minimum random drug testing rate to 25 percent whenever the industry-wide random drug positive rate is less than 1.0 percent for two calendar years while testing at 50 percent. (For both drugs and alcohol, FRA reserves the right to consider other factors, such as the number of positives in its post-accident testing program, before deciding whether to lower annual minimum random testing rates). FRA will return the rate to 50 percent if the industry-wide random drug positive rate is 1.0 percent or higher in any subsequent calendar year.

FRA implemented a parallel performance-based system for random alcohol testing. Under this system, if the industry-wide violation rate is less than 1.0 percent but greater than 0.5 percent, the rate will be 25 percent. FRA will raise the rate to 50 percent if the industry-wide violation rate is 1.0 percent or higher in any subsequent calendar year. FRA may lower the minimum random alcohol testing rate to 10 percent whenever the industry-wide violation rate is less than 0.5 percent for two calendar years while testing at a higher rate.

In this notice, FRA announces that the minimum random drug testing rate will remain at 25 percent of covered railroad employees for the period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, since the industry random drug testing positive rate for 2002 was 0.79 percent. Since the industry-wide violation rate for alcohol has remained below 0.5 percent for the last two years, FRA is maintaining the minimum random alcohol testing rate at 10 percent of covered railroad employees for the period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004. Railroads remain free, as always, to conduct random testing at higher rates.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 12, 2004.

Allan Rutter,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 04-1060 Filed 1-15-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2001-10044; Notice 3]

Reliance Trailer Co., LLC.; Receipt of Application for Renewal of Temporary Exemption From Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 224

Reliance Trailer Co., LLC, of Spokane, Washington (Reliance), has applied for a renewal of a temporary exemption of its dump body trailer from Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 224, *Rear Impact Protection* (FMVSS No. 224). In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 30113(b)(3)(B)(i), the basis of the request is that compliance would cause substantial economic hardship to a manufacturer that has made a good faith effort to comply with the standard.

We are publishing this notice of receipt of the renewal application in accordance with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 30113(b)(2). This action does not represent any judgment of the agency on the merits of the application.

On October 22, 2001, NHTSA granted Reliance a two-year hardship exemption from the requirements of FMVSS No. 224.¹ That exemption expired on October 1, 2003. Reliance petitioned for renewal on September 24, 2003. Because Reliance did not apply for a renewal more than 60 days prior to expiration of the original exemption, the petitioner is no longer subject to the October 22, 2001 exemption.²

FMVSS No. 224 requires, effective January 26, 1998, that all trailers with a GVWR of 4536 kg or more, including Reliance's dump body trailers, be fitted with a rear impact guard that conforms to Standard No. 223, *Rear Impact Guards*.

In the original petition, Reliance argued that a rear impact guard prevented its trailers from properly discharging asphalt into paving equipment. According to petitioners, compliance with FMVSS No. 224 rendered their dump body trailers useless for performing their intended function. During the two-year temporary exemption period, Reliance anticipated acquiring the revenue necessary to design a complex retractable rear impact guard that would allow for proper interaction with paving equipment. However, petitioners now state that they have not been able to arrive at a practical, and economic solution for

¹ For background information on the company please see original petition (66 FR 36032).

² See 49 CFR 555.8(e).