

Intended effective date: 1 February 2006.

Renee V. Wright,

*Program Manager, Docket Operations,
Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. E6-1793 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (Formerly Subpart Q) During the Week Ending January 20, 2006

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (See 14 CFR 301.201 *et. seq.*). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: OST-2005-23664.

Date Filed: January 17, 2006.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: February 7, 2006.

Description: Application of TEM Enterprises d/b/a Xtra Airways ("Xtra") requesting a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing Xtra to engage in foreign scheduled air transportation of persons, property and mail from any point or points in the United States to any point or points in the Republic of Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic, and between Atlanta, GA; Cincinnati, OH; Memphis, TN and Orlando, FL, on the one hand, and Cancun, Mexico on the other.

Docket Number: OST-2005-23694.

Date Filed: January 20, 2006.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: February 10, 2006.

Description: Application of Business Jet Services, Ltd. ("BJS") requesting a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing BJS to engage in interstate charter air transportation of persons, property and mail.

Docket Number: OST-2005-23695.

Date Filed: January 20, 2006.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: February 10, 2006.

Description: Application of Business Jet Services, Ltd. ("BJS") requesting a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing BJS to engage in foreign charter air transportation of persons, property and mail.

Renee V. Wright,

*Program Manager, Docket Operations,
Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. E6-1794 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The FHWA has forwarded the information collection request described in this notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. We published a Federal Register Notice with a 60-day public comment period on this information collection on November 23, 2005. We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Please submit comments by March 13, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may 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. You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA's performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kreig Larson, (202) 366-2056, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Planning, Environment and Realty, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Environmental Streamlining: Measuring the Performance of Stakeholders in the Transportation Project Development Process II.

Abstract: The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), FHWA, has contracted with the Gallup Organization to conduct a survey of professionals associated with transportation and resource agencies in order to gather their views on the workings of the environmental review process for transportation projects and how the process can be streamlined. The purpose of the survey is to: (1) Collect the perceptions of agency professionals involved in conducting the decision-making processes mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other resource protection laws in order to develop benchmark performance measures; and (2) identify where the performance of the process might be improved by the application of techniques for streamlining. This is a phone survey conducted of only local, state, and Federal officials who work with the NEPA process.

Respondents: Approximately 2,000 professionals/officials from transportation and natural resource agencies.

Frequency: This will be the second time this survey will be conducted in four years.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: The FHWA estimates that each respondent will complete the survey in approximately 15 minutes. With 2,000 surveys expected, an estimated 500 burden hours are expected for this project.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued On: February 2, 2006.

James R. Kabel,

Chief, Management Programs and Analysis Division.

[FR Doc. E6-1758 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2005-22938]

Commercial Driver's License Standards; Application for Exemption; Volvo Trucks North America, Inc.

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of application for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces that Volvo Trucks North America, Inc. (Volvo) has applied for an exemption from the Federal requirement for drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) to hold a commercial driver's license (CDL). Volvo requests that the exemption cover 11 Swedish engineers and technicians who will test-drive CMVs for Volvo within the United States. All 11 Volvo employees hold a valid Swedish CDL. Volvo states the exemption is needed to allow required testing of its CMVs under various climatic and environmental conditions within the United States. Volvo believes the knowledge and skills tests and training program that Swedish drivers undergo to obtain a Swedish CDL ensures the exemption would provide a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety obtained by complying with the U.S. requirement for a CDL.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 13, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Your comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Docket Management System (DMS)
Web site at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit>, under the last 5 digits of Docket No. FMCSA-2005-22938, and following the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Hand Delivery: Room PL-401 on the Plaza Level, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

Docket: To read background documents or comments received, go to <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time or Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The DMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want to be notified that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard, or you can print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

Privacy Act: Anyone may view or download comments submitted in any of DOT's dockets by the name of the commenter or name of the person

signing the comment (if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, or other entity). You may view DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 at 65 FR 19477. It is also available at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jeffrey Van Ness, (202) 366-4009, Office of Bus and Truck Standards and Operations (MC-PSV), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, DOT, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or e-mail: jeffrey.vanness@fmcsa.dot.gov. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4007 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), Public Law 105-178, 112 Stat. 107 (June 9, 1998), which amended 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), authorizes the agency to grant exemptions from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). On December 8, 1998 (63 FR 67600), the Federal Highway Administration's Office of Motor Carriers, predecessor of FMCSA, published an interim final rule to implement section 4007 of TEA-21. On August 20, 2004 (69 FR 51589), FMCSA adopted as final the interim regulations at 49 CFR part 381. These regulations require FMCSA to publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register**, 49 CFR 381.315(a). We must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted. We must also provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

We will review the safety analyses and the public comments and determine whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation, 49 CFR 381.305. We must publish the agency's decision in the **Federal Register**, 49 CFR 381.315(b). If the agency denies the request, we must state the reason for doing so. If the agency grants the exemption, we must publish a notice to: specify the person or class of persons receiving the exemption; the regulatory provision or provisions from which exemption is being granted; the effective period of the exemption (up to 2 years); and the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed, 49 CFR 381.300(b).

Volvo Trucks North America, Inc.'s Application for an Exemption

Volvo has applied for an exemption from the commercial driver's license (CDL) rules. Specifically, 49 CFR 383.23 prescribes licensing requirements for drivers operating CMVs in interstate or intrastate commerce. Volvo requests the exemption because its driver-employees are citizens and residents of Sweden, and because they cannot apply for a CDL from a State in the United States. A copy of the application is in Docket No. FMCSA-2005-22938.

The exemption would allow the following 11 drivers to operate tractor trailer combination vehicles in interstate commerce as part of a team of drivers who develop, design and/or test engines for CMVs that will be manufactured, assembled, sold or primarily used in the United States: Christer Milding, Jonas Gustafsson, Sten-Ake Sandberg, Daniel Kanebratt, Per Urban Walter, Dennis Mattsson, Fredrik Wattwil, Jonas Nilsson, Bjorn Nyman, Lars Johansson, and David Aas.

These drivers are a team of designers employed by Volvo in Sweden, that would operate CMVs in the United States for the purpose of testing and evaluating production and prototype CMVs to ensure the vehicles are well-tested for use on U.S. highways. Each driver holds a valid Swedish CDL. Because of strict Swedish regulations for obtaining a CDL and the drivers' level of training and experience, Volvo believes the exemption will likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be obtained absent the exemption.

Volvo explained that drivers applying for a Swedish-issued CDL must pass knowledge and skills tests. Therefore, the process for obtaining a Swedish-issued CDL is considered to be comparable to, or as effective as the Federal requirements of Part 383, and adequately assesses the driver's ability to operate CMVs in the United States.

Once a Swedish driver is granted a Swedish CDL, he/she is allowed to drive any CMV currently allowed on Swedish roads. There are no limits to types or weights of vehicles that may be operated by the drivers.

Request for Comments

Accordingly, FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on Volvo's application for an exemption from the CDL requirements of 49 CFR 383.23. See 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(4) and 31136(e). The agency will consider all comments received by close of business on March 13, 2006. Comments will be

available for examination in the docket. We will consider comments received after the comment closing date to the extent practicable.

Issued on: February 2, 2006.

Annette M. Sandberg,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. E6-1755 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket Nos. FMCSA-99-5748, 99-6156]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of renewal of exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew the exemptions from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for 10 individuals. FMCSA has statutory authority to exempt individuals from vision standards if the exemptions granted will not compromise safety. The agency has concluded that granting these exemptions will provide a level of safety that will be equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety maintained without the exemptions for these commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers.

DATES: This decision is effective March 7, 2006. Comments must be received on or before March 13, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket Management System (DMS) Docket Numbers FMCSA-99-5748 and FMCSA-99-6156 using any of the following methods.

- Web Site: <http://dmses.dot.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.

- Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

- Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- Hand Delivery: Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and docket

numbers for this notice. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://dms.dot.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading for further information.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time or Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The DMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want us to notify you that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

Privacy Act: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review the Department of Transportation's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477; Apr. 11, 2000). This information is also available at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Mary D. Gunnels, Chief, Physical Qualifications Division, (202) 366-4001, maggi.gunnels@fmcsa.dot.gov FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Exemption Decision

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), FMCSA may renew an exemption from the vision requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce, for a two-year period if it finds "such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption." The procedures for requesting an exemption (including renewals) are set out in 49 CFR part 381. This notice addresses 10 individuals who have requested renewal of their exemptions in a timely manner. FMCSA has evaluated these 10 applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period. They are:

Herman L. Bailey, Jr.

Mark A. Baisden
Brad T. Braegger
Daniel R. Franks
Dennis J. Lessard
Harry R. Littlejohn
James D. Simon
Wayland O. Timberlake
Robert J. Townsley
Jeffrey G. Wuensch

These exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) That each individual have a physical examination every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), and (b) by a medical examiner who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41; (2) that each individual provide a copy of the ophthalmologist's or optometrist's report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver's qualification file and retain a copy of the certification on his/her person while driving for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e).

Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application for additional two year periods. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), each of the 10 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (64 FR 40404; 64 FR 66962; 67 FR 10475; 69 FR 8260; 64 FR 54948; 65 FR 159). Each of these 10 applicants has requested timely renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption standards.