

wipers, defrosters and demisters and their parts; microwave ovens; water heaters, ovens, stoves and ranges; electric sound amplifier sets and their parts; sound turntables; sound reproducing apparatus; television receivers; antennas and antenna reflectors; reception apparatus parts; burglar and fire alarms; circuit breakers; relays; optical fiber cables; electrical switches; lamp holders; electrical consoles; sealed-beam electrical lamps; halogen lamps; electrical discharge lamps and their parts; insulated wire cable with connectors; diesel-powered motor vehicle chassis not exceeding 5 metric tons; diesel-powered motor vehicle chassis exceeding 5 metric tons up to 20 metric tons; diesel-powered motor vehicle chassis exceeding 20 metric tons; spark-ignition internal combustion engine-powered motor vehicle chassis not exceeding 5 metric tons; spark-ignition internal combustion engine-powered motor vehicles exceeding 5 metric tons; road wheels and parts; trailers, semi-trailers and their parts; optical appliances and instruments; hydrometers, thermometers, pyrometers, barometers, hygrometers, psychrometers and their parts; gas or smoke analysis apparatus; speedometers, tachometers and stroboscopes; engine-testing equipment; voltage regulators and their parts; rubber or plastic mattresses; and, mattress supports. The duty rates on the imported components range from duty-free to 25 percent.

This application requests authority for Thor to conduct the manufacturing activity under FTZ procedures, which could exempt the company from customs duty payments on the imported components used in export production. Up to 5 percent of production could be exported. On domestic sales, the company could defer duty payment and choose the lower duty rate (duty-free to 5.7 percent) that applies to the finished products for the imported components used in manufacturing. Thor may also realize savings related to direct delivery and weekly customs entry procedures. The company would also realize savings on the elimination of duties on materials that become scrap/waste during manufacturing. The application indicates that the FTZ-related savings would improve the plant's international cost competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, Christopher Kemp of the FTZ staff is designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the

Board's Executive Secretary at the address listed below. The closing period for their receipt is February 17, 2009. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to March 2, 2009).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available at each of the following addresses: The Saint Joseph County Airport Authority, 4477 Progress Drive, South Bend, Indiana 46628; and, Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 2111, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** Christopher Kemp at christopher_kemp@ita.doc.gov or (202) 482-0862.

Dated: December 4, 2008.

Andrew McGilvray,
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-29985 Filed 12-16-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 65-2008]

Foreign-Trade Zone 207—Richmond, Virginia; Application for Subzone; Qimonda North America Corporation; (Dynamic Random Access Memory Modules Distribution); Sandston, VA

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Capital Region Airport Commission, grantee of FTZ 207, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the warehousing and distribution facility of Qimonda North America Corporation (Qimonda), located in Sandston, Virginia. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on December 2, 2008.

The Qimonda facility (10 employees, 210 acres, 1,435,278 square feet) is located at 6000 Technology Boulevard, Sandston, Virginia. The facility is used for the storage and distribution of dynamic random access memory modules (duty-free).

FTZ designation would allow Qimonda to realize logistical benefits through the use of weekly customs entry procedures. The request indicates that the savings from FTZ procedures would

help improve the facility's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, Elizabeth Whiteman of the FTZ Staff is designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is February 17, 2009. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period to March 2, 2009.

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center, 400 N. 8th St., Suite 412, Richmond, VA 23240-0026.

Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 2111, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20230.

For further information, contact Elizabeth Whiteman at Elizabeth_Whiteman@ita.doc.gov or (202) 482-0473.

Dated: December 3, 2008.

Andrew McGilvray,
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-29990 Filed 12-16-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 1591]

Grant of Authority for Subzone Status; Sondex, L.P. (Oil and Gas Field Services Equipment); Conroe, TX

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

Whereas, the Foreign-Trade Zones Act provides for “ * * * the establishment * * * of foreign-trade zones in ports of entry of the United States, to expedite and encourage foreign commerce, and for other purposes,” and authorizes the Foreign-Trade Zones Board to grant qualified corporations the privilege of establishing foreign-trade zones in or adjacent to U.S. Customs and Border Protection ports of entry;

Whereas, the Board's regulations (15 CFR Part 400) provide for the

establishment of special-purpose subzones when existing zone facilities cannot serve the specific use involved, and when the activity results in significant public benefit and is in the public interest;

Whereas, the City of Conroe, Texas, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 265, has made application to the Board for authority to establish a special-purpose subzone at the oil and gas field services equipment distribution facility of Sondex, L.P., located in Conroe, Texas (FTZ Docket 12–2008, filed 2/21/08);

Whereas, notice inviting public comment was given in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 12374, 3/7/08); and,

Whereas, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner's report, and finds the requirements of the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations are satisfied, and that approval of the application is in the public interest;

Now, therefore, the Board hereby grants authority for subzone status for activity related to oil and gas field services equipment distribution at the facility of Sondex, L.P., located in Conroe, Texas (Subzone 265B), as described in the application and **Federal Register** notice, subject to the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations, including Section 400.28.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 4th day of December 2008.

David M. Spooner,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Import Administration, Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

Attest:

Andrew McGilvray,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8–29988 Filed 12–16–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Commercial Service—Client Focus Groups

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 17, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 7845, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Susan Crawford, 202–482–2050, Susan.Crawford@mail.doc.gov, Fax 202–482–2599.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The International Trade Administration's U.S. Commercial Service (CS) is mandated by Congress to help U.S. businesses, particularly small and medium-sized companies, export their products and services to global markets.

As part of its mission, CS currently uses "Quality Assurance Surveys" to collect feedback from the U.S. business clients it serves. These surveys ask the client to evaluate the CS on its customer service provision. The results from the surveys are used to make improvements to business processes in order to provide better and more effective export assistance to U.S. companies. In addition to collecting client feedback through Quality Assurance Surveys, CS would like to use client focus groups as a mechanism to obtain further client feedback and substantiate customer service trends seen in the surveys. Qualitative client focus group data will enrich the quantitative survey data by providing insights and a descriptive context to explain the trends that emerge in the quantitative data.

The CS proposes to modify the previously approved collection. Focus groups previously addressed awareness and branding issues, but CS plans to revise the questions to address quality improvement issues. The revised focus group discussion guide will enable CS to obtain a better understanding of actions it can take to improve the export-related services provided to U.S. firms. In providing these services, CS promotes the goods and services of small and medium-sized U.S. businesses in foreign markets.

II. Method of Collection

U.S. firms will be recruited via telephone to participate in focus group discussions. Firms may be current Commercial Service clients or potential

clients. Data will be collected through either face-to-face focus group discussion forums (6–8 participants per focus group) and conference calls, or through one-on-one qualitative interviews either in person or via phone. A moderator will facilitate the discussions and notes will be transcribed via computer. All comments from participants will be anonymous.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0625–0254.

Form Number(s): ITA–4153P.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 96.

Estimated Time per Response: 45 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 72.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: None.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 10, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E8–29621 Filed 12–16–08; 8:45 am]

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