

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Application for Recordal or Renewal of Insignia Under the Fastener Quality Act.	10 minutes .....	150	26
Total .....	.....	150	26

*Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden:* \$3,474. There are no capital start-up costs or maintenance costs associated with this information collection. However, this collection does have annual (non-hour) costs in the form of filing fees. Customers may also incur postage costs when submitting the Application for Recordal of Insignia Under the Fastener Quality Act to the USPTO by mail.

Under 37 CFR 2.7, the filing fee for a recordal of fastener insignia, a renewal of an insignia recordal, or the surcharge for a late renewal is \$20. If a manufacturer submits a renewal after the expiration date but within six months of that date, then the manufacturer must pay the \$20 renewal fee as well as a \$20 late renewal surcharge, for a total fee of \$40 for a late renewal. The USPTO estimates that approximately 20 of the 150 responses per year will be late renewals that incur the surcharge. Therefore, the total filing costs for this collection will be \$3,400 per year for applications for recordal of fastener insignia, renewals, and late renewals.

The public may submit the information for this collection to the USPTO by mail through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for a mailed submission will be 49 cents, for a total postage cost of \$74 per year.

The total non-hour respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of filing fees and postage costs is \$3,474 per year.

#### 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, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Dated: November 27, 2002.

**Susan K. Brown,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.*

[FR Doc. 02-30746 Filed 12-3-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

*Agency:* United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

*Title:* Rules for Patent Maintenance Fees.

*Form Number(s):* PTO/SB/45/47/65/66.

*Agency Approval Number:* 0651-0016.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 30,495 hours annually.

*Number of Respondents:* 348,110 responses per year.

*Avg. Hours Per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 5 minutes (0.08 hours) to 8 hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the form or petition, and submit the completed request. The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 20 seconds (0.006 hours) to submit the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form.

*Needs and Uses:* In order to keep utility patents in force, patentees must pay maintenance fees at 3½, 7½, and 11½ years after the date of grant. The public uses this collection to submit a patent maintenance fee payment, to file a petition to accept an unavoidably or

unintentionally delayed maintenance fee payment, to file a petition to request acceptance of a maintenance fee payment that was submitted prior to patent expiration but refused by the USPTO, and to designate or change an address to be used for fee-related correspondence with the USPTO. The USPTO uses the information collected from the public to process and record maintenance fee payments, to consider petitions regarding delayed maintenance fee payments or payments that were refused by the USPTO, and to send fee-related correspondence to the correct address.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profits, not-for-profit institutions, and the Federal government.

*Frequency:* On occasion and 3 times at 4-year intervals following the grant of the patent.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231, by phone at (703) 308-7400, or by e-mail at [susan.brown@uspto.gov](mailto:susan.brown@uspto.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before January 3, 2003, to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: November 27, 2002.

**Susan K. Brown,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.*

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