

vehicles, replacement of the driver's side air bag and knee bolster with U.S.-model components on all other 1991–1992 E Series vehicles, and replacement of the driver's and passenger's side air bags and knee bolsters on 1993–1995 E Series vehicles. The petitioner states that the vehicles are equipped at the front and rear outboard seating positions with Type II seat belts, and with a lap belt in the rear center designated seating position.

Standard No. 214 Side Impact Protection: Installation of reinforcing beams in the doors which comply with the standard.

Standard No. 301 Fuel System Integrity: Installation of a rollover valve in the fuel tank vent line between the fuel tank and the evaporative emissions collection canister.

The petitioner also states that a vehicle identification number plate must be affixed to the vehicle to meet the requirements of 49 CFR part 565.

Additionally, the petitioner states that all vehicles will be inspected prior to importation to ensure that they are equipped with U.S.-model anti-theft devices, and that all vehicle that are not so equipped will be modified to comply with the Theft Prevention Standard at 49 CFR part 541.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 9 am to 5 pm.] It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: July 13, 2000.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.
[FR Doc. 00-18247 Filed 7-18-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2000-7523]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 1997 Chevrolet Blazer Multi-Purpose Passenger Vehicles Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 1997 Chevrolet Blazer multi-purpose passenger vehicles (MPVs) are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that a 1997 Chevrolet Blazer manufactured for the European and other foreign markets that was not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards is eligible for importation into the United States because (1) it is substantially similar to a vehicle that was originally manufactured for sale in the United States and that was certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and (2) it is capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATE: The closing date for comments on the petition is August 18, 2000.

ADDRESS: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 9 am to 5 pm].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to

conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

Wallace Environmental Testing Laboratories, Inc., of Houston, Texas ("Wallace") (Registered Importer 90-005) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1997 Chevrolet Blazer MPVs manufactured for the European and other foreign markets are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicle which Wallace believes is substantially similar is the 1997 Chevrolet Blazer that was manufactured for sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer, General Motors Corporation, as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared the non-U.S. certified 1997 Chevrolet Blazer to its U.S. certified counterpart, and found the two vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Wallace submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that the non-U.S. certified 1997 Chevrolet Blazer, as originally manufactured, conforms to many Federal motor vehicle safety standards in the same manner as its U.S. certified counterpart, or is capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that the non-U.S. certified 1997 Chevrolet Blazer is identical to its U.S. certified counterpart with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence* . . . , 103 *Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 105 *Hydraulic Brake Systems*, 106 *Brake Hoses*, 113 *Hood Latch Systems*, 114 *Theft Protection*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 118 *Power-Operated Window Systems*, 119 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 201 *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*, 202 *Head Restraints*, 204 *Steering Control Rearward Displacement*, 205 *Glazing Materials*, 206 *Door Locks and Door Retention*

Components, 207 Seating Systems, 209 Seat Belt Assemblies, 210 Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages, 212 Windshield Retention, 216 Roof Crush Resistance, 219 Windshield Zone Intrusion, 301 Fuel System Integrity, and 302 Flammability of Interior Materials.

Petitioner also contends that the vehicle is capable of being readily altered to meet the following standards, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 101 *Controls and Displays*: (a) installation of a conforming brake failure warning light on vehicles that are not already so equipped; (b) inspection of the speedometer and replacement, if necessary, with one reading in miles per hour.

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: inspection of all equipment subject to standard and replacement with U.S. model headlights, taillights, front and rear sidemarker light assemblies, and high mounted stop lamps on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

Standard No. 111 *Rearview Mirrors*: replacement of the passenger side rearview mirror or inscription of the required warning statement on that mirror.

Standard No. 120 *Tire Selection and Rims*: installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 208 *Occupant Crash Protection*: installation of U.S.-model driver's side air bag and knee bolster. The petitioner states that the vehicle is equipped with combination lap and shoulder belts in the front and rear outboard designated seating positions and with a lap belt in the center designated seating position.

Standard No. 214 *Side Impact Protection*: inspection of all vehicles and installation of U.S. model door bars on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

Additionally, the petitioner states that a vehicle identification number plate must be affixed to the vehicle to meet the requirements of 49 CFR part 565.

The petitioner also states that all vehicles will be inspected prior to importation and that parts identification markings will be added, where necessary to ensure compliance with the Theft Prevention Standard at 49 CFR part 541.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date

indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: July 13, 2000.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Notice of Public Information Collection Submitted to the Office of the Management and Budget for Review

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Requesting approval of revision of a currently approved collection.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval the following proposal for collection of information as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Title: Annual Waybill Compliance Survey.

Office: Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

OMB Form No.: OMB 2140-0010.

Frequency: Annually.

No. of Respondents: 600.

Total Burden Hours: 300.

DATES: Persons wishing to comment on this information collection should submit comments by August 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Case Control, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423. When submitting comments refer to the title of the information collection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harold J. Warren, (202) 565-1433. Requests for copies of the information collection may be obtained by contacting Arlene Jeffcoat, (202) 565-1661.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Surface Transportation Board is, by statute, responsible for the economic regulation of railroads operating in the

United States. The Carload Waybill Sample is collected to support the Board's regulatory activities as is the information concerning railroad revenue. The Annual Waybill Compliance Survey, which collects on the number of carloads terminated and operating revenue, is required to be filed by all railroads operating in the United States pursuant to authority in title 49 U.S.C. 1145, 11144, 11901, 11326(b), 11327, and 11328(b) of the ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803 (1995). Our regulations at 49 CFR 1244.2(f) specifically require the survey to be filed annually.

Decided: July 13, 2000.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-18231 Filed 7-18-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33901]

Hi-Tech Trans, LLC—Operation Exemption—Over Lines Owned Canadian Pacific Railway and Connecting Carriers

Hi-Tech Trans, LLC (HTT), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to commence operations over approximately 641 miles of rail line from Oak Island Yard in Newark, NJ to points in Irwin, Buffalo and Niagara, NY, and Lowellville and or Canton, OH.¹ The specific route has not been established because HTT asserts that the route may be changed in the future to afford more efficient service. HTT certifies that its projected revenues will not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III railroad.

HTT states that operations will not commence until it reaches lease or trackage rights agreements with other railroads. HTT further states that it expects that those agreements can be finalized by August 1, 2000 and that it can commence operations before January 1, 2001.

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of

¹ HTT states that it expects to enter into sub-lease or trackage rights agreements with the Canadian Pacific Railway and its affiliates and will arrange connections with the Finger Lakes Railroad, Norfolk Southern Railway Company, and CSX Corporation.