

OMB Desk Officer: Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5027, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: November 2, 1999.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket No. 50-99]

Foreign-Trade Zone 77—Memphis, TN, Expansion of Manufacturing Authority—Subzone 77B Brother Industries (U.S.A.) Inc., (Postage Franking Machines and Electronic Business Equipment), Shelby County, Tennessee

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the City of Memphis, Tennessee, grantee of FTZ 77, requesting on behalf of Brother Industries (U.S.A.) Inc. (Brother), to expand the scope of manufacturing authority under zone procedures within Subzone 77B, at the Brother plant in Shelby County, Tennessee. The application was submitted pursuant to 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 October 18, 1999.

Subzone 77D was approved by the Board in 1995 at two sites in Bartlett, Tennessee (Shelby County): *Site 1*—a 25-acre manufacturing facility at Brother Boulevard and Highway 64, and *Site 2*—a 20-acre warehouse facility at 3141 Appling Road, with authority granted for the manufacture of electric and automatic typewriters and word processors (Board Order 774, 60 FR 48100, 9/18/95).

Brother is now proposing to expand the scope of manufacturing activity conducted under zone procedures at

Subzone 77B to include postage franking machines and electronic business equipment. At the outset, the company is expecting to manufacture postage franking machines (HTSUS 8470.90—duty-free). Brother is also requesting to include in its scope of authority other electronic business equipment that it may produce in the future, including computer printers, facsimile machines, multifunction printer/facsimile/copier machines, labeling and barcode printers, and printer supplies. Foreign-sourced materials may include the following items: ink cartridge assemblies, printing ink, polyacetals and epoxide resins, plastic tubes, hoses and fittings, rubber and plastic self-adhesive film, friction tape, transmission belts, paper pulp filter blocks, screws, washers, bolts, springs, parts and accessories of calculators, cash registers and postage franking machines, electromechanical devices with self-contained motors, computer subassemblies and parts, ball or roller bearings, transmission shafts, electric motors and generators, transformers, adaptors, capacitors, resistors, printed circuit boards (PCBs), PCB shield plates, printed wiring boards, surge arrestors, electrical switching equipment, semiconductor devices, integrated circuits, insulated wire and cable, wire and cable fittings, and liquid crystal devices. Foreign-sourced materials will account for, on average, 50 percent of the postage franking machine's value.

FTZ procedures would exempt Brother from Customs duty payments on foreign components used in export production (some 10% of production). On its domestic sales, Brother would be able to choose the lower duty rate (duty-free to 8.7%, mostly duty-free) that applies to the finished products for the foreign components noted above (duty-free to 12.5%, weighted average for postage franking machines is 1.3%). FTZ procedures will also help Brother implement a more cost-effective system for handling Customs requirements (including weekly entry filings, reduced brokerage fees and Customs merchandise processing fees). The application indicates that the savings from zone procedures would help improve the plant's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and three copies) shall be addressed to the Board's

Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is January 7, 2000. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period to January 24, 2000.

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

Office of the Executive Secretary,
Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S.
Department of Commerce, Room
3716, 14th and Pennsylvania
Avenue, NW., Washington, DC
20230.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Export
Assistance Center, Buckman Hall,
650 East Parkway South, Suite 348,
Memphis, Tennessee 38104.

Dated: October 27, 1999.

Dennis Puccinelli,

Acting Executive Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-557-805]

Extruded Rubber Thread From Malaysia; Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: In response to a request by the petitioner and three producers/exporters of the subject merchandise, the Department of Commerce is conducting an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia. This review covers four manufacturers/exporters of the subject merchandise to the United States (Filati Lastex Sdn. Bhd., Heveafil Sdn. Bhd./Filmax Sdn. Bhd., Rubberflex Sdn. Bhd., and Rubfil Sdn. Bhd.). The period of review is October 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998.

We have preliminarily determined that sales have been made below the normal value by three of the four companies subject to this review. If these preliminary results are adopted in the final results of this administrative review, we will instruct the Customs Service to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries.

We invite interested parties to comment on these preliminary results. Parties who wish to submit comments