

and Mexico to produce comparable data among the NAFTA partners.

In addition to converting from the SIC to NAICS, the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey will convert its monthly report form to a print-on demand system. This new system allows us to tailor the survey instrument to a specific industry. For example, it will print an additional instruction for a particular NAICS code. This system also reduces the time and cost of preparing mailout packages that contain unique variable data, while improving the look and quality of the products being produced.

## II. Method of Collection

We collect this information by mail, fax, and telephone follow-up.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0607-0190.

*Form Number:* B-310 (97).

*Type of Review:* Regular Submission.

*Affected Public:* Wholesale firms in the United States.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,800.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 7 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 5,320.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* The cost to the respondents for fiscal year 1999 is estimated to be \$103,687 based on the mean hourly salary of \$19.49 for accountants and auditors. ("Occupational Employment Statistics—Bureau of Labor Statistics 1997 National Occupational Employment and Wage Data Professional, Paraprofessional, and Technical Occupations," \$19.49 represents the median hourly wage of the full-time wage and salary earnings of accountants and auditors). Information on mean wages and salaries can also be found at Internet site [http://stats.bls.gov/oes/national/oes\\_prof.htm](http://stats.bls.gov/oes/national/oes_prof.htm).

*Respondent's Obligation:* The collection of information is voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, Section 182.

## 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 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: March 15, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Participation Agreement and Trade Mission Application; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506 (2) (A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 18, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230. Phone number: (202) 482-3272.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Request for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to: John Klingelhut, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, Export Promotion Services, Room 2810, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; Phone number: (202) 482-4403, and fax number: (202) 482-2526.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Participation Agreement and Trade Mission Application forms are the vehicles by which individual firms agree to participate in the Department of Commerce's (DOC) trade promotion program, identify the products or services they intend to sell or promote, and record their required participation fees. The DOC is revising questions on the current Form ITA-4008P-1, "Trade

Mission Application," to clarify and refine the information it seeks to ensure the best possible selection of participants for trade missions.

## II. Method of Collection

Form ITA-4008P-1 is sent by request to potential U.S. firms.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0625-0147.

*Form Number:* ITA-4008P-1.

*Type of Review:* Revision-Regular Submission.

*Affected Public:* Companies seeking to apply to participate in overseas Commerce Department trade missions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 7,800.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 45 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,738 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Costs:* The estimated annual cost for this collection is \$148,417.00 (\$98,369.00 for respondents and \$50,048.00 for federal government).

## 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 costs) 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 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: March 15, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

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

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