

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Information Bulletin

DATE: October 15, 2008

TO: Carriers, Shippers, Brokers, Importers & other
Interested Parties

FROM: Tucson Field Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

SUBJECT: October 15, 2008 Maritime Seal Requirement

On October 15, 2008, a new seal requirement for all sea containers in transit to the United States will become effective. The statute requires all sea containers sealed with a seal meeting the International Organization for Standardization Publicly Available Specification 17712 (ISO/PAS 17712), Freight Containers – Mechanical Seals. The statutory requirement applies to loaded sea containers, including freight remaining on board, arriving by vessel at U.S. ports of entry. Exceptions, however, include tanks, non-standard containers (such as open top containers), and those containers incapable of being affixed with such a seal.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will ensure compliance with this new requirement as part of normal inspection activities and does not envision any new activities aimed simply at seal verification. The national policy will identify the methods used to ensure compliance with this statute and has not been finalized. Field Offices should continue with normal activities in regards to sea container seals until notified otherwise. ~~We expect the policy finalized and issued shortly.~~

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Armando Goncalvez, Supervisor - Program Manager, Trade 520-407-2323

44 U.S.C. 35). The purpose of this notice is to allow 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for thirty days until September 8, 2008. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), USCIS Desk Officer. Comments may be submitted to: USCIS, Chief, Regulatory Management Division, Clearance Office, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529. Comments may also be submitted to DHS via facsimile to 202-272-8352 or via e-mail at rfs.regs@dhs.gov, and to the OMB USCIS Desk Officer via facsimile at 202-395-6974 or via e-mail at oir_submission@omb.eop.gov.

When submitting comments by e-mail please make sure to add Form G-28 in the subject box. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Emergency request for OMB approval.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative, and Notice of Entry of Appearance of Foreign Attorney.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form G-28,

and Form G-28I. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Primary:* Individuals or households. The data collected on Forms G-28 and G-28I are used by DHS to determine eligibility of the individual to appear as a representative.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 2,479,000 responses at 20 minutes (.333) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 825,507 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please visit the USCIS Web site at: <http://www.regulations.gov/search/index.jsp>.

If additional information is required contact: USCIS, Regulatory Management Division, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529, (202) 272-8377.

Dated: August 4, 2008.

Stephen Tarragon,

Management Analyst, Regulatory Management Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. E8-18176 Filed 8-6-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-97-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Customs and Border Protection

[CBP Dec. 08-30]

Container Seals on Maritime Cargo

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document brings attention to the existing statutory requirement by which all maritime containers in transit to the United States are required to be sealed with a seal meeting the ISO/PAS 17712 standard and specifies the date on which the requirement shall take effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 15, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie Fleming Luczkowski, Cargo and Conveyance Security, Office of Field Operations, (202) 344-1927.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 944, as amended by Section 1701 of Title XVII ("Maritime Cargo") of the Implementing Recommendations of the 911 Commission Act of 2007 (911 Act), the Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to establish by regulation minimum standards and procedures for securing containers in transit to the United States. The 911 Act provides that if the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) does not issue an interim final rule for establishing such minimum standards and procedures by April 1, 2008, effective no later than October 15, 2008, all containers in transit to the United States shall be required to be sealed with a seal meeting the International Organization for Standardization Publicly Available Specification 17712 (ISO/PAS 17712) standard for sealing containers. As DHS has not issued regulations establishing minimum standards and procedures for securing such containers at this time, pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 944, all maritime containers in transit to the U.S. by vessel shall be required to be sealed with a seal meeting the ISO/PAS 17712 standard for sealing containers no later than October 15, 2008.

As 6 U.S.C. 944 imposes a self-executing legal requirement, DHS is not required to issue regulations for this requirement to be implemented. This document does not impose additional requirements beyond those found in 6 U.S.C. 944. This document simply serves to bring attention to the existing statutory requirement that all maritime containers in transit to the United States by vessel are required to be sealed with a seal meeting the ISO/PAS 17712 standard and specifies the date on which the requirement takes effect.

The ISO/PAS 17712 Standard

Generally, ISO/PAS 17712 requires that container freight seals meet or exceed certain standards for strength and durability so as to prevent accidental breakage, early deterioration (due to weather conditions, chemical action, etc.) or undetectable tampering under normal usage. ISO/PAS 17712 also requires that each seal be clearly and legibly marked with a unique identification number.

Copies of ISO/PAS 17712 may be purchased from the International Organization for Standardization, 1, rue de Varembé, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland or the American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036.

Containers Subject to the 6 U.S.C. 944 Sealing Requirement

All loaded containers, including foreign cargo remaining on board (FROB), arriving by vessel at a port of entry in the United States on or after October 15, 2008, are required to be sealed with a seal meeting the ISO/PAS 17712 standard.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recognizes that there are types of containers that cannot be readily secured by use of a container freight seal meeting the ISO/PAS 17712 standard. These include tanks, non-standard containers (such as open top containers), or containers that simply cannot accommodate a seal meeting the ISO/PAS 17712 standard (such as custom built containers). These types of containers are not subject to the statutory requirement.

Enforcement of the 6 U.S.C. 944 Sealing Requirement

CBP will consider 6 U.S.C. 944 to be violated if a loaded container that is subject to the sealing requirements arrives by vessel at a port of entry in the United States on or after October 15, 2008, either (i) with no seal or (ii) with a seal that does not meet the ISO/PAS 17712 standard. These violations derive from a failure to properly seal the container.

CBP may assess a civil penalty against the party responsible for the violation of 6 U.S.C. 944 under 19 U.S.C. 1595a(b) for the attempted introduction of merchandise into the United States contrary to law.

CBP will phase in penalty assessments for violation of the container sealing requirements.

Trade Act Requirements

CBP also takes this opportunity to remind vessel carriers that pursuant to 19 CFR 4.7(b)(2) and 4.7a(c)(4)(xiv), they must transmit all seal numbers to CBP 24 hours before cargo is laden aboard a vessel at a foreign port via the Vessel Automated Manifest System (AMS).

Dated: August 4, 2008.

Thomas S. Winkowski,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.

[FR Doc. E8-18174 Filed 8-6-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[F-14851-I, F-14851-M, F-14851-N; AK-964-1410-KC-P]

Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

SUMMARY: As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to NANA Regional Corporation, Inc., Successor in Interest to Deering Ipnatchiak Corporation. The lands are in the vicinity of Deering, Alaska, and are located in:

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 6 N., R. 21 W.,
Secs. 7, 18, and 19.

Containing approximately 1,859 acres.

T. 7 N., R. 21 W.,
Secs. 3, 8, 9, and 10;
Secs. 16 and 17;
Secs. 24, 25, 35, and 36.

Containing approximately 6,400 acres.

T. 8 N., R. 21 W.,
Secs. 23 to 36, inclusive.

Containing approximately 5,109 acres.
Aggregating approximately 13,368 acres.

The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to NANA Regional Corporation, Inc. when the surface estate is conveyed to NANA Regional Corporation, Inc., Successor in Interest to Deering Ipnatchiak Corporation. Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Arctic Sounder.

DATES: The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision shall have until September 8, 2008 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Bureau of Land Management by phone at 907-271-5960, or by e-mail at

ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunication device (TTD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact the Bureau of Land Management.

Hillary Woods,

Land Law Examiner, Land Transfer Adjudication I.

[FR Doc. E8-18203 Filed 8-6-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[F-14880-X, F-14880-Y, F-14880-C2; AK-964-1410-KC-P]

Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

SUMMARY: As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation. The lands are in the vicinity of Kotzebue, Alaska, and are located in:

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 19 N., R. 14 W.,
Secs. 17 and 18.

Containing approximately 605 acres.

T. 19 N., R. 15 W.,
Secs. 4 to 20, inclusive.

Containing approximately 7,498 acres.

T. 19 N., R. 16 W.,
Sec. 3;

Secs. 9 to 15, inclusive.

Containing approximately 4,956 acres.

T. 20 N., R. 16 W.,
Secs. 31 to 36, inclusive.

Containing 3,797.30 acres.

T. 21 N., R. 16 W.,
Secs. 31 and 32.

Containing approximately 1,279 acres.

T. 20 N., R. 17 W.,
Secs. 1, 6, 12, and 13.

Containing 2,240.22 acres.

T. 21 N., R. 17 W.,
Secs. 15, 22, 27, and 28;
Secs. 31 to 36, inclusive.

Containing 6,376.56 acres.

T. 22 N., R. 17 W.,
Secs. 5, 6, and 7.

Containing approximately 1,835 acres.

T. 23 N., R. 17 W.,
Secs. 23 to 28, inclusive;
Secs. 31 to 34, inclusive.

Containing 6,371.25 acres.