

inquiries regarding the specific tests or gauger services this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/operations_support/labs_scientific_svcs/org_and_operations.xml.

DATES: The re-approval of Amspec Services as a commercial gauger and laboratory became effective on May 26, 2005. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for May 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eugene J. Bondoc, PhD, or Randall Breaux, Laboratories and Scientific Services, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, 202-344-1060.

Dated: March 22, 2007.

Ira S. Reese,

Executive Director, Laboratories and Scientific Services.

[FR Doc. E7-5707 Filed 3-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

[CBP Dec. 07-14]

Re-Accreditation and Re-Approval of Intertek Caleb Brett as a Commercial Gauger and Laboratory

AGENCY: Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of re-approval of Intertek Caleb Brett of Corpus Christi, Texas, as a commercial gauger and laboratory.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 19 CFR 151.12 and 151.13, Intertek Caleb Brett, 134 Heinsohn Road, Suite A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78406, has been re-approved to gauge petroleum and petroleum products, organic chemicals and vegetable oils, and to test petroleum and petroleum products for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.12 and 151.13. Anyone wishing to employ this entity to conduct laboratory analysis or gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is accredited or approved by the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific test or gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific tests or

gauger services this entity is accredited or approved to perform may be directed to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/operations_support/labs_scientific_svcs/org_and_operations.xml.

DATES: The re-approval of Intertek Caleb Brett as a commercial gauger and laboratory became effective on February 23, 2005. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for February 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eugene J. Bondoc, PhD, or Randall Breaux, Laboratories and Scientific Services, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, 202-344-1060.

Dated: March 22, 2007.

Ira S. Reese,

Executive Director, Laboratories and Scientific Services.

[FR Doc. E7-5708 Filed 3-27-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

[CBP Dec. 07-15]

Re-Approval of Intertek Caleb Brett as a Commercial Gauger

AGENCY: Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of re-approval Intertek Caleb Brett of Pasadena, Texas, as a commercial gauger.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 19 CFR 151.13, Intertek Caleb Brett, 3741 Red Bluff Road, Pasadena, Texas 77503, has been re-approved to gauge petroleum and petroleum products, organic chemicals and vegetable oils for customs purposes, in accordance with the provisions of 19 CFR 151.13. Anyone wishing to employ this entity for gauger services should request and receive written assurances from the entity that it is approved by the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection to conduct the specific gauger service requested. Alternatively, inquiries regarding the specific gauger services this entity is approved to perform may be directed to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection by calling (202) 344-1060. The inquiry may also be sent to <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/>

[cgov/import/operations_support/labs_scientific_svcs/org_and_operations.xml](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/operations_support/labs_scientific_svcs/org_and_operations.xml).

DATES: The re-approval of Intertek Caleb Brett as a commercial gauger became effective on February 18, 2005. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for February 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eugene J. Bondoc, PhD, or Randall Breaux, Laboratories and Scientific Services, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 1500N, Washington, DC 20229, 202-344-1060.

Dated: March 22, 2007.

Ira S. Reese,

Executive Director, Laboratories and Scientific Services.

[FR Doc. E7-5710 Filed 3-27-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

[USCBP-2007-0030]

Receipt of Domestic Interested Party Petition Concerning Tariff Classification of Glass Optical Preforms

AGENCY: Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of domestic interested party petition; solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has received a petition submitted on behalf of a domestic interested party requesting the reclassification under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) of glass optical preforms. CBP's current position is that glass optical preforms are classifiable duty-free in subheading 7002.20.1000, HTSUS, as glass rods of fused quartz or other fused silica, unworked. Petitioner maintains that this classification is incorrect because the optical fiber preforms consist of a glass core rod that has been "worked" by the addition of a layer of cladding glass to the core rod. Petitioner asserts that subheading 7020.00.6000, HTSUS, other articles of glass, other, represents the correct classification. The 2007 rate of duty under this provision is 5 percent ad valorem.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 29, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number, by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments via docket number USCBP-2007-0030.

- *Mail:* Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., (Mint Annex), Washington, DC 20229.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this notice of domestic interested party petition concerning the tariff classification of glass optical preforms. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submitted comments may also be inspected during regular business days between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Regulations and Rulings, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, 799 9th Street, NW., 5th Floor, Washington, DC. Arrangements to inspect submitted comments should be made in advance by calling Joseph Clark, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, at (202) 572-8768.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Emily M. Simon, Tariff Classification and Marking Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade at (202) 572-8867.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

A petition has been filed under section 516, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1516), on behalf of Corning Incorporated, Corning, New York, requesting that Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reclassify imported optical glass preforms. In accordance with HQ 967058 and HQ 967059, both dated April 21, 2006, CBP classifies this merchandise duty-free in subheading 7002. 20.1000, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), as glass rods of fused quartz or other fused silica, unworked. Petitioner maintains that this classification is incorrect because the optical fiber preforms consist of a glass core rod that has been “worked” by the addition of a layer of cladding glass to the core rod. Petitioner asserts that subheading 7020.00.6000, HTSUS, other articles of glass, other, represents the

correct classification. The 2007 rate of duty under this provision is 5 percent ad valorem.

Classification under the HTSUS is determined in accordance with the General Rules of Interpretation (GRIs). GRI 1 provides that the classification of goods shall be according to the terms of the headings and any relative Section or Chapter Notes. In the event that the goods cannot be classified solely on the basis of GRI 1, and if the headings and legal notes do not otherwise require, the remaining GRIs 2 through 6 may then be applied in order.

Optical glass preforms are produced by a two-step process. In the first step, the core layer of the preform is drawn through an annealing furnace, fusing it into a rod by a method called vapor axial deposition. In the second step, the cladding layer of the preform is added by fusing a layer of silica dioxide powder to the outside of the core rod.

Petitioner maintains that CBP’s position that core rods are identifiable merely as an intermediate stage in a somewhat continuous process of producing preforms is erroneous. Petitioner contends that core rods exist as a separate and distinct commercial article, are recognized throughout the industry as “rods,” and are referred to as such. Petitioner concludes that the addition of a layer of cladding glass to a core rod renders the rod “worked,” and results in classification in heading 7020, HTSUS, as other articles of glass.

At GRI 1, the classification of optical glass preforms in heading 7002, HTSUS, results from a finding that they are unworked. CBP has uniformly considered the process of “working” glass to have been performed on an extant article of glass, rather than during the process of creating or manufacturing that article. See HQ 960274, dated October 9, 1997. Therefore, it is CBP’s position that the “working” of glass articles contemplates a mechanical or physical alteration of the glass after the glass articles are created. Consequently, the addition to a glass core rod of a layer of cladding glass to complete a glass preform cannot at the same time be considered a “working” of that preform.

As an alternative claim, Petitioner asserts that the glass optical preforms, which it now refers to as optical fiber preforms, have a single and recognizable predetermined use as optical fibers. As such, they qualify as incomplete or unfinished optical fibers under GRI 2(a), HTSUS, having the essential character of complete or finished optical fibers classifiable in subheading 9001.10.0030, HTSUS. Optical fibers and other articles of Chapter 90 are excluded from Chapter 70, pursuant to Chapter 70, Note 1(d),

HTSUS. The 2007 rate of duty under this provision is 6.7 percent ad valorem.

Petitioner maintains the preforms possess all of the critical optical properties of the fiber, citing HQ 560660 dated April 9, 1999. HQ 560660 involved an analysis of “character” for purposes of substantial transformation in a marking or origin context. CBP found in that ruling that there was no recognizable change in character based on the drawing of the preform into fiber. Petitioner maintains that finding applies equally in a GRI 2(a) context. HQ 560660 cited HQ 960948¹ dated September 11, 1998, with respect to whether a glass preform was properly classifiable under subheading 9001.10.00, HTSUS, as incomplete or unfinished optical fiber, on the basis of GRI 2(a), HTSUS. Under GRI 2(a), an incomplete or unfinished article will be classified as a complete or finished article provided it has the “essential character” of the complete or finished article. HQ 960948 cited court cases, which looked to the function or use of the article in determining essential character for classification purposes. The ruling stated that the preform is a magnified version of the fiber to be drawn from it and, accordingly, both have the same critical fiber optic attributes. However, CBP noted that the preform does not have the essential physical characteristics (*i.e.*, thinness and flexibility) necessary for practical use as optical fiber. It was further noted that, pursuant to a Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System Explanatory Note (EN) for GRI 2(a) (*i.e.*, EN GRI Rule 2(a)(II)), the preforms may not be classified as incomplete or unfinished optical fiber (as “blanks”) because they did not have “the approximate shape or outline” of the finished article. Thus, CBP concluded that the glass preform did not have the essential character of a complete or finished optical fiber, and was not an incomplete or unfinished optical fiber classifiable in subheading 9001.10.00, HTSUS.

Comments

Pursuant to section 175.21(a), CBP regulations (19 CFR 175.21(a)), before making a determination on this matter, CBP invites written comments on the petition from interested parties.

The domestic interested party petition concerning the tariff classification of optical glass preforms, as well as all comments received in response to this notice, will be available for public inspection in accordance with the

¹ HQ 960948 was revoked for other reasons by HQ 967058, dated April 21, 2006.

Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552, and Section 103.11(b), CBP regulations (19 CFR 103.11(b)), between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on regular business days at the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Office of Regulations and Rulings, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, 799 9th Street, NW., 5th Floor, Washington, DC. Arrangements to inspect submitted comments should be made in advance by calling Joseph Clark at (202) 572-8768.

Authority

This notice is published in accordance with section 175.21(a), CBP Regulations (19 CFR 175.21(a)) and 19 U.S.C. 1516.

Dated: March 23, 2007.

W. Ralph Basham,

Commissioner, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. E7-5712 Filed 3-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed revised information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the revised collection of information, which is necessary for assessment and improvement of the delivery of disaster assistance. The forms serve as survey tools used to evaluate customer perceptions of effectiveness, timeliness and satisfaction with initial, continuing and final delivery of disaster-related assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This collection is in accordance with Executive Order 12862 requiring all Federal agencies to survey customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing services. The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) requires agencies to set missions and goals and measure performance against them. FEMA will fulfill these requirements by collecting customer service and program information through surveys of the Recovery Division's external customers.

Collection of Information

Title: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance Customer Satisfaction Surveys.

Type of Information Collection: Revision of a currently approved collection.

OMB Number: 1660-0036.

Form Numbers: FEMA Form 90-147, Registration Intake Survey; FEMA Form 90-148, Helpline Survey; FEMA Form 90-149, Program Effectiveness & Recovery Survey; FEMA Form 90-150, Internet On-Line Registration Phone Survey; FEMA Form 90-151, Internet Applicant Inquiry/Update Phone Survey; Moderator's Guide for Focus Group.

Abstract: Federal agencies are required to survey their customers to determine the kind and quality of services customers want and their level of satisfaction with existing services. FEMA Managers use the survey results to measure program performance against standards for performance and customer service; measure achievement of GPRA and strategic planning objectives; and generally gauge and make improvements to disaster services that increase customer satisfaction and program effectiveness.

Affected Public: Individuals and households, businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 8,791.75 hours.

Project/activity	No. of respondents	Frequency of responses	Hour burden per response (hours)	Annual responses	Total annual hour burden (hours)
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)=(A×B)	(E)=(C×D)	
Registration Intake Survey (RI)—Phone	8,855	1	0.25	8,855	2,213.75
Helpline Survey (HL)—Phone	8,855	1	0.25	8,855	2,213.75
Program Effectiveness & Recovery Survey (PE&R)—Phone	8,832	1	0.25	8,832	2,208
Internet—On Line Registration Survey—Phone	2,990	1	0.25	2,990	747.50
Internet—Applicant Inquiry/Update Survey—Phone	2,875	1	0.25	2,875	718.75
Surveys subtotal .....	.....	.....	.....	32,407	8,101.75
Focus Group held in person annually	120	1	2.5	120	300
Focus Group One-on-One In Depth Interviews	24	1	.75	24	18
Focus Group On-Line Time Extended In Depth Interviews	24	1	3	24	72
Focus Group Quantitative Design Validation	1,200	1	.25	1,200	300
Focus groups subtotal .....	.....	.....	.....	1,368	690
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	33,775	8,791.75

Estimated Cost: There is no expected cost to the respondents. The estimated annual cost to the Federal Government is \$1,908,207.47.

Comments: Written comments are solicited to (a) Evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall

have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;