

- Provide any other information that will help the FOIA staff determine which DHS component agency may have responsive records; and

- If your request is seeking records pertaining to another living individual, you must include a statement from that individual certifying his/her agreement for you to access his/her records.

Without this bulleted information the component(s) may not be able to conduct an effective search, and your request may be denied due to lack of specificity or lack of compliance with applicable regulations.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

See "Notification procedure" above.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

See "Notification procedure" above.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Records are generated from sources contacted during investigations, state and local law enforcement, and federal departments and agencies.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

The Secretary of Homeland Security has exempted this system from the following provisions of the Privacy Act, subject to the limitation set forth in (c)(3); (d); (e)(1), (e)(4)(G), (e)(4)(H), (e)(4)(I); and (f) of the Privacy Act pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a (k)(1), (k)(2), and (k)(5) of the Privacy Act.

Dated: January 25, 2010.

Mary Ellen Callahan,

Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2010-2207 Filed 2-2-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-9B-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Notice of Cancellation of Customs Broker License

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

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 641 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, (19 USC 1641) and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection regulations (19 CFR 111.51(b)), the following Customs broker license and all associated permits are cancelled with prejudice.

Name	License No.	Issuing port
John T. Sciara.	10286	New York.

Dated: January 26, 2010.

Daniel Baldwin,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of International Trade.

[FR Doc. 2010-2304 Filed 2-2-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning a Certain Alternator

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

ACTION: Notice of final determination.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice that U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") has issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of a certain alternator. Based upon the facts presented, CBP has concluded in the final determination that the U.S. is the country of origin of the alternator for purposes of U.S. government procurement.

DATE: The final determination was issued on January 21, 2010. A copy of the final determination is attached. Any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of this final determination within March 5, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elif Eroglu, Valuation and Special Programs Branch: (202) 325-0277.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that on January 21, 2010, pursuant to subpart B of part 177, Customs Regulations (19 CFR part 177, subpart B), CBP issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of the alternator which may be offered to the U.S. Government under an undesignated government procurement contract. This final determination, in HQ H075667, was issued at the request of Ecoair Corp. under procedures set forth at 19 CFR part 177, subpart B, which implements Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511-18). In the final determination, CBP has concluded that, based upon the facts presented, the alternator, assembled in the U.S. from parts made in China and the U.S., is substantially transformed in the U.S., such that the U.S. is the country of origin of the finished article for purposes of U.S. government procurement.

Section 177.29, Customs Regulations (19 CFR 177.29), provides that notice of

final determinations shall be published in the **Federal Register** within 60 days of the date the final determination is issued. Section 177.30, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.30), provides that any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of a final determination within 30 days of publication of such determination in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: January 21, 2010.

Sandra L. Bell,

Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade.

Attachment

H075667

January 21, 2010

OT:RR:CTF:VS H075667 EE

CATEGORY: Marking

Mr. Peter S. Knudsen, Jr.
Ecoair Corp.
Four Industrial Circle
Hamden, CT 06517-3152

RE: U.S. Government Procurement;
Title III, Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. § 2511); Subpart B, Part 177, CBP Regulations; Country of Origin; Eco-Tech Heavy Duty Alternator

Dear Mr. Knudsen: This is in response to your correspondence of October 31, 2009, in which you requested a final determination on behalf of Ecoair Corp. ("Ecoair"), pursuant to subpart B of part 177, Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") Regulations (19 C.F.R. § 177.21 et seq.). Under the pertinent regulations, which implement Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. § 2511 et seq.), CBP issues country of origin advisory rulings and final determinations as to whether an article is or would be a product of a designated country or instrumentality for the purpose of granting waivers of certain "Buy American" restrictions in U.S. law or practice for products offered for sale to the U.S. Government.

This final determination concerns the country of origin of the Eco-Tech Heavy Duty Alternator. We note that Ecoair is a party-at-interest within the meaning of 19 C.F.R. § 177.22(d)(1) and is entitled to request this final determination.

FACTS:

You describe the pertinent facts as follows. Eco-Tech Alternators operate in diesel powered military boats, fire trucks, ambulances, utility trucks, school shuttles, party buses, and commercial fishing boats; all applications where significant operating time is spent at idle and where electric power needs are independent of the

engine speed. Eco-Tech alternators provide 80% of maximum electrical output at idle versus 30% for typical conventional alternators. Therefore, all of the on-board electronics of emergency vehicles can be supported while vehicles are operating at idle, instead of keeping their engines racing in high idle operation.

You advise that there are two important parts of alternators: 1. the electro/mechanical parts including the rotor, stator, and end frames; and, 2. the electronic component, i.e. the regulator. The regulator controls the alternator by enabling it to supply the amount of electric power that matches the needs of the vehicle. Should the regulator not supply enough power, the battery will get depleted and the vehicle will stop operating. If the regulator supplies too much electrical power, the battery and the wiring will get hot and fail. You state that the electro/mechanical parts of the alternator are manufactured by Dehong Eco-Tech, a joint venture company in China. The electronic portion, the regulator, is manufactured in the U.S. by Carleton Industries. The electro/mechanical parts will be shipped to the Ecoair facility in Hamden, Connecticut where they will be assembled with the U.S. manufactured regulator into the alternator. The alternator will be tested and packaged in the U.S.

You have submitted the bill of materials for the alternator. Some of the components from China include the following: stator assembly, rotor assembly, rectifier, regulator base assembly, insulators, rear cover, outer package, and inner package. Components sourced in the U.S. include overvoltage transient suppressor, retainer ring, bearings, regulator, and cable. Drive end housing and diode end housing are sourced both in China and the U.S. You submitted schematics, photographs, specifications, and the step-by-step assembly process of the regulator and the alternator in the U.S. The assembly of the alternator, from components including the regulator, is comprised of thirty-one discrete steps and fifty-two parts, takes approximately 169 minutes. You claim that each step is completed by skilled workers who undergo an extensive training process.

Alternator assembly process involves pressing the bearing to the drive end housing; installing the snap ring, the helicoil, and the stator; measuring the stator resistance and stator AUX winding resistance; using fluke meter to measure the rotor resistance; a hi-pot test to check insulation between each phase to ground; pressing the rotor into the stator/drive end housing assembly;

installing the SRE housing, installing the air flow deflector; installing the rectifier sub-assembly; installing the heat shrink tubing; and, installing the regulator back plate and the ignition protect parts.

ISSUE:

What is the country of origin of the Eco-Tech Heavy Duty Alternator for the purpose of U.S. government procurement?

LAW AND ANALYSIS:

Pursuant to subpart B of part 177, 19 C.F.R. § 177.21 et seq., which implements Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. § 2511 et seq.), CBP issues country of origin advisory rulings and final determinations as to whether an article is or would be a product of a designated country or instrumentality for the purposes of granting waivers of certain "Buy American" restrictions in U.S. law or practice for products offered for sale to the U.S. Government.

Under the rule of origin set forth under 19 U.S.C. § 2518(4)(B):

An article is a product of a country or instrumentality only if (i) it is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of that country or instrumentality, or (ii) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, it has been substantially transformed into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed.

See also, 19 C.F.R. § 177.22(a).

In rendering advisory rulings and final determinations for purposes of U.S. government procurement, CBP applies the provisions of subpart B of part 177 consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulations. See 19 C.F.R. § 177.21. In this regard, CBP recognizes that the Federal Acquisition Regulations restrict the U.S. Government's purchase of products to U.S.-made or designated country end products for acquisitions subject to the TAA. See 48 C.F.R. § 25.403(c)(1). The Federal Acquisition Regulations define "U.S.-made end product" as:

* * * an article that is mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States or that is substantially transformed in the United States into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed.

48 C.F.R. § 25.003.

In determining whether the combining of parts or materials

constitutes a substantial transformation, the determinative issue is the extent of operations performed and whether the parts lose their identity and become an integral part of the new article. *Belcrest Linens v. United States*, 573 F. Supp. 1149 (Ct. Int'l Trade 1983), *aff'd*, 741 F.2d 1368 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Assembly operations that are minimal or simple, as opposed to complex or meaningful, will generally not result in a substantial transformation. Factors which may be relevant in this evaluation may include the nature of the operation (including the number of components assembled), the number of different operations involved, and whether a significant period of time, skill, detail, and quality control are necessary for the assembly operation. See C.S.D. 80-111, C.S.D. 85-25, C.S.D. 89-110, C.S.D. 89-118, C.S.D. 90-51, and C.S.D. 90-97. If the manufacturing or combining process is a minor one which leaves the identity of the article intact, a substantial transformation has not occurred. *Uniroyal, Inc. v. United States*, 3 CIT 220, 542 F. Supp. 1026 (1982), *aff'd* 702 F.2d 1022 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

In order to determine whether a substantial transformation occurs when components of various origins are assembled into completed products, CBP considers the totality of the circumstances and makes such determinations on a case-by-case basis. The country of origin of the item's components, extent of the processing that occurs within a country, and whether such processing renders a product with a new name, character, and use are primary considerations in such cases. Additionally, factors such as the resources expended on product design and development, extent and nature of post-assembly inspection and testing procedures, and the degree of skill required during the actual manufacturing process may be relevant when determining whether a substantial transformation has occurred. No one factor is determinative.

In a number of rulings (e.g., HQ 735608, dated April 27, 1995 and HQ 559089 dated August 24, 1995), CBP has stated: "in our experience these inquiries are highly fact and product specific; generalizations are troublesome and potentially misleading. The determination is in this instance 'a mixed question of technology and Customs law, mostly the latter.'" *Texas Instruments, Inc. v. United States*, 681 F.2d 778, 783 (CCPA 1982).

This case involves fifty-three components which are proposed to be assembled in the U.S., largely by skilled workers. The regulator, manufactured in the U.S., is the electronic component of

the alternator, which controls the electrical output of the alternator to match the electrical load of the vehicle. The regulator is a key component of the alternator. Should the alternator not supply enough power, the battery will get depleted and the vehicle will stop operating. The regulator will be assembled with fifty-two other components, into the alternator in a thirty-one step process which will take approximately 169 minutes. Under the described assembly process, the foreign components lose their individual identities and become an integral part of a new article, the alternator, possessing a new name, character and use. Based upon the information before us, we find that the components that are used to manufacture the alternator, including the regulator manufactured in the U.S., are substantially transformed as a result of the assembly operations performed in the U.S., and that the country of origin of the alternator for government procurement purposes is the U.S.

HOLDING:

The components that are used to manufacture the alternator are substantially transformed as a result of the assembly operations performed in the U.S. Therefore, the country of origin of the alternator for government procurement purposes is the U.S.

Notice of this final determination will be given in the Federal Register, as required by 19 C.F.R. § 177.29. Any party-at-interest other than the party which requested this final determination may request, pursuant to 19 C.F.R. § 177.31, that CBP reexamine the matter anew and issue a new final determination. Pursuant to 19 C.F.R. § 177.30, any party-at-interest may, within 30 days after publication of the Federal Register notice referenced above, seek judicial review of this final determination before the Court of International Trade.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Bell

*Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings,
Office of International Trade.*

[FR Doc. 2010-2305 Filed 2-2-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

New Date for April 2010 Customs Brokers License Examination

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

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces that U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") has changed the date on which the semi-annual written examination for an individual broker's license will be held in April 2010.

DATES: The customs broker's license examination scheduled for April 2010 will be held on Wednesday, April 7.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Russell Morris, Broker Compliance Branch, Office of International Trade, (202) 863-6543.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 641 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1641), provides that a person (an individual, corporation, association, or partnership) must hold a valid customs broker's license and permit in order to transact customs business on behalf of others, sets forth standards for the issuance of broker's licenses and permits, and provides for the taking of disciplinary action against brokers that have engaged in specified types of infractions. In the case of an applicant for an individual broker's license, section 641 provides that an examination may be conducted to determine the applicant's qualifications for a license.

The regulations issued under the authority of section 641 are set forth in part 111 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 111). Part 111 includes detailed rules regarding the licensing of, and granting of permits to, persons desiring to transact customs business as customs brokers. These rules include the qualifications required of applicants and the procedures for applying for licenses and permits. Section 111.11 (19 CFR 111.11) sets forth the basic requirements for a broker's license and, in paragraph (a)(4), provides that an applicant for an individual broker's license must attain a passing grade on a written examination taken within the 3-year period before submission of the license application prescribed under § 111.12 (19 CFR 111.12). Section 111.13 (19 CFR 111.13) sets forth the requirements and procedures for the written examination for an individual broker's license. Paragraph (b) of § 111.13 pertains to the date and place of the examination and states that written customs broker license examinations will be given on the first Monday in April and October unless the regularly scheduled examination date conflicts with a national holiday, religious observance, or other foreseeable event and U.S.

Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") publishes in the **Federal Register** appropriate notice of a change in the examination date.

CBP recognizes that the first Monday in April 2010 (April 5) coincides with the observance of Passover. In consideration of this conflict with Passover, CBP has decided to change the date of the examination pursuant to § 111.13(b). Accordingly, this document announces that CBP has scheduled the April 2010 examination for Wednesday, April 7.

Dated: January 26, 2010.

Daniel Baldwin,

*Assistant Commissioner, Office of
International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border
Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2010-2303 Filed 2-2-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5383-N-02]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment; Public Housing Contracting With Resident-Owned Businesses

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* April 5, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control number and sent to: Leroy McKinney, Departmental Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 4178, Washington DC 20410-5000; telephone 202.402.5564 (this is not a toll-free number) or e-mail Leroy McKinney at Leroy.McKinney@hud.gov for a copy of the proposed forms or other available information. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. (Other than the HUD USER information line