

commercial samples and professional equipment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Scopa, Office of Field Operations 202-927-3112.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This notice advises the public that the United States Council for International Business has been selected as the issuing and guaranteeing organization for a new carnet, known as the "TECRO/AIT Carnet". This carnet is being offered as a result of the signing of a bilateral carnet agreement between the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative in the United States (TECRO) and the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) for the temporary admission of goods, commercial samples and professional equipment. In a final rule also published in this issue of the **Federal Register**, Customs is amending its regulations which apply to carnets to reflect this new agreement.

A carnet is an international customs document, backed by an internationally valid guarantee, which may be used for the temporary admission of merchandise. The carnet is used in place of the usual national customs documentation and guarantees the payment of duties (including taxes) which may become due if the requirements of the carnet are not satisfied.

Taiwan is currently ineligible to accede to the ATA Carnet Convention, under which carnets facilitate trade among more than fifty contracting parties. Thus, Taiwan has sought access to the carnet facility through the recently concluded TECRO/AIT Carnet Agreement. This agreement was negotiated pursuant to the authority contained in 22 U.S.C. 3305.

On November 4, 1996, a Notice was published in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 56740) in which the Customs Service informed the public of the TECRO/AIT carnet and solicited applications for an organization to issue and guarantee the new carnet.

The issuing association must be approved by the Commissioner of Customs. The guaranteeing association is jointly and severally liable with the carnet holder for the payment of the sums. The guaranteeing association also must be approved by the Commissioner of Customs.

Pursuant to § 114.11, Customs Regulations (19 CFR 114.11), an association, in order to be approved by Customs, must provide in writing that it will undertake to perform the functions and fulfill the obligations specified in

the Agreement to which the United States accedes.

Based upon the information received from the United States Council for International Business, the Commissioner of Customs has determined that the United States Council for International Business satisfies the conditions to be designated an issuing and guaranteeing organization for the TECRO/AIT Carnet.

Dated: July 15, 1997.

Editorial note: This document was received by the Office of the Federal Register on January 22, 1998.

George J. Weise,

Commissioner of Customs.

[FR Doc. 98-1951 Filed 1-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Application and Renewal Fees Imposed on Surety Companies and Reinsuring Companies; Increase in Fees Imposed

AGENCY: Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

SUMMARY: Effective December 31, 1997, The Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, is increasing the fees it imposes on and collects from surety companies and reinsuring companies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Surety Bond Branch, (202) 874-6765.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The fees imposed and collected, as referred to in 31 CFR 223.22, cover the costs incurred by the Government for services performed relative to qualifying corporate sureties to write Federal business. These fees are determined in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-25, as amended. The increase in fees is the result of a thorough analysis of costs associated with the Surety Bond Branch.

The new fee rate schedule is as follows:

(1) Examination of a company's application for a Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety or as an acceptable reinsuring company on Federal bonds—\$3,900.

(2) Determination of a company's continued qualification for annual renewal of its Certificate of Authority—\$2,300.

(3) Examination of a company's application for recognition as an Admitted Reinsurer (except on excess

risks running to the United States)—\$1,385.

(4) Determination of a company's continued qualification for annual renewal of its authority as an Admitted Reinsurer—\$975.

Questions concerning this notice should be directed to the Surety Bond Branch, Funds Management Division, Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, Hyattsville, MD 20782, Telephone (202) 874-6850.

Dated: January 16, 1998.

Charles F. Schwan III,

Acting, Assistant Commissioner, Financial Information, Financial Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-1977 Filed 1-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[Delegation Order No. 67 (Rev. 24)]

Delegation of Authority

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Delegation of authority.

SUMMARY: The specific authority to sign the name of, or on behalf of, Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The text of the delegation order appears below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 13, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald Ridgley, Chief, Office of Organizational Research, M:SP:A, Room 401, 1255 22nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 874-4479 (not a toll-free call).

Delegation Order No. 67 (Rev. 24)

Effective: November 13, 1997.

Signing the Commissioner's Name or on the Commissioner's Behalf

Authority: To sign the name of, or on behalf of Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Delegated to: Persons with existing authority to sign the name or, or on behalf of, Michael P. Dolan, Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Redelegation: This authority may not be redelegated.

Source of Authority: Treasury Order 150-10.

This order is effective 11:00 a.m., November 13, 1997, and supersedes Delegation Order 67 (Rev. 23), effective May 26, 1997.

Dated: January 21, 1998.

Charles O. Rossotti,

Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 98-1948 Filed 1-27-98; 8:45 am]

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